

Yard issues drawings of bomb couple

Scotland Yard issued an artist's impressions of a young woman and a man, thought to be connected with the three bomb blasts in London this month. Police believe they are part of the Provisional IRA. The girl is described as having blonde or light coloured hair and a "very good figure".

Sub captain stands fast

The captain of the Soviet submarine, near a naval base on the Swedish south coast, has refused to leave for questioning until ordered to do so by his commanders in the Soviet Union, despite an apparent earlier agreement to go ashore.

Rush to buy C and W shares

A rush for the Cable & Wireless £224m share offer yesterday is believed to have been at least five times oversubscribed, attracting more than £1,000m from the public.

McEnroe fined for rudeness

John McEnroe, the Wimbledon tennis champion, was fined £750 for rudeness to a supervisor who failed to call an opponent's service out in a tournament in Tokyo.

Doctor attacks pressure groups

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, attacked both Ed and Life for "destroying the confidence of the medical profession".

Tom Jackson to retire next year

Mr Tom Jackson is to retire next year as general secretary of the Union of Communications Workers. He has held the post for 15 years and said yesterday he thought it time he and the union had a change.

Uganda invites Asians to return

President Milton Obote of Uganda said his government was preparing to compensate the Asians expelled by President Amin in 1972. Alternatively, they were welcome to return and take back their business and other confiscated property.

Tax case victory for disabled

Thousands of disabled people who paid tax on their mobility allowances before April 1979, are likely to qualify for rebates after a High Court ruling against the Special Tax Commissioners.

Petrol likely to cost 3p more

Petrol will probably cost an extra three or four pence a gallon in Britain as a result of Thursday's agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for a unified oil price structure with a \$24 benchmark.

Namibia progress

The first phase of the Namibian independence process could be completed by the end of the year, Western negotiators said at the end of their talks on the constitutional draft with the internal political parties.

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Letters: On Antarctica, from Mr James Dawson; on Namibia, from Mr Julian Amery, MP; on art, works, from Mr E. Cooke, and Professor Kenneth Kirkwood.

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The retirement of Canon Collins: the rise of the urban fox; Norway goes Tory; Louis Hagen says farewell to The Times.

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Government intervenes

Last-ditch bid to avert strike at BL

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The combined weight of the Government and the independent Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) will be brought to bear on union leaders and BL management today in a final attempt to avert the catastrophic consequences of the strike due to begin in the car firm's plants at midnight.

In an apparent reversal of his previous position, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, is to intervene directly by meeting leaders of the unions to press home to them the Cabinet's backing for Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL and his board's insistence that the 3.5 per cent plus improved bonus pay offer is all that is available.

The unions will then go to the Westminster offices of Acas, where Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of the service and former industrial relations director of BL, has assembled a top level team of conciliators with the aim of bringing the two sides together.

BL management is holding its own internal talks at the Acas offices, but Sir Michael will move before talking to conciliation officers. Last night one straw in the wind was a movement among white-collar workers to accept the pay offer. But there was little optimism among union leaders. Mr Kenneth Curre, chief negotiator of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "We shall stand by the offer to change the prospect of strike."

Mr Grenville Hawley, national automotive group secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said: "We shall stand by the offer to change the prospect of strike."

BL management has taken some comfort from the two to one majority recorded among white-collar workers to accept the 3.5 per cent offer, though they are not directly involved in the current dispute. Voting has gone in favour of 6,600 to 3,200, the company said.

The double-headed pace initiative by the Government and Acas conciliators represents the biggest effort by ministers and advisers within the Cabinet to settle an industrial dispute since Mrs Thatcher took office.

Union leaders are going to see Mr Jenkin, the Industry Secretary, at their own request after leading Labour spokesmen urged the value of direct ministerial involvement. But Mr Jenkin has made it clear that he will not be negotiating when he meets the unions this morning.

Call for volunteers, page 2

Ford unions reject 4½pc pay offer with strings

By Our Labour Editor

Ford Motors UK yesterday offered its 54,000 hourly-paid workers pay rises averaging 4½ per cent, but told union leaders that increased wages were entirely conditional on acceptance of radical changes in working practices.

Union negotiators rejected the package, and talks are to be resumed on November 9, which time both sides hope there may have been a solution to the crisis at BL Cars.

Before making their offer, Ford management complained to unions that there was a vast efficiency gap between British car workers and those on the Continent and in Japan. At the Halewood plant on Merseyside, it took seven employees to produce one Escort, against

three at Saarlouis, West Germany.

Mr Paul Root, the company's director of industrial relations, rejected the unions' claim for a week's action on the board, arguing: "Anything that is done in these negotiations will have to be paid for by reducing costs and improving efficiency."

"Although we have succeeded to date in avoiding the large-scale redundancies that employees of other manufacturers and component suppliers have had to face over the past 18 months this does not mean that our business is or will remain viable."

Ford Motors listed five points on productivity and flexibility. Continued on back page, col 7



Sir Michael Edwards leaving the House of Commons after talks with Mr Foot.

Warning by Shore of party crisis

By Philip Webster

The bitter anger of Labour's centre-right over the crisis into which they believe the hard left has plunged the party was on the verge of boiling over last night.

Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor and joint leader of Labour's Solidarity campaign, speaking in Rotherham, cited the Crofton, North West, and St Pancras, North, GLC by-election results, and the Gallup poll on Thursday showing a decline in popular support for Labour.

He said: "We would be blind and deaf if we did not recognize that four party faces in the 'graveyard' since the 1950s of the SDP alliance with the Liberals faces us with a challenge that is now truly formidable."

By a potent and deadly mixture of genuine disappointment, over-arching personal ambition, a totally ineffective national executive committee and through organized subversion and infiltration, the party had inflicted hideous wounds on itself, he declared.

And in a reference to Mr Michael Foot's decision to back Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Eric Heffer for the chairmanship of two key NEC committees, Mr Shore acerbically remarked: "With characteristic generosity Michael Foot has proffered the olive branch to those within the NEC who have played a major role in bringing us to our present predicament."

Signalling the determination of Solidarity to fight the left on their own ground in the constituencies, Mr Shore declared: "No longer can we allow organized infiltration and organized conspiracy."

It was up to the new NEC to respond without reserve or hesitation. "If we fail now to end the wretched chapter in our affairs that began in May, 1979, we shall betray generations of men and women who created the party, our fellow countrymen who need an effective and strong Labour government, and the future of democratic socialism."

Jail sentences at end of euthanasia trial

By Frances Gibb

Nicholas Reed, general secretary of EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, and Mark Lyons, the bogus "Dr Arthur" were convicted of helping people to kill themselves by unanimous verdicts at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Sentencing Mr Reed to two and a half years' imprisonment, one of the heaviest sentences imposed for aiding suicide, Mr Justice Neil Lawson said that he regarded Mr Reed's case as far more serious than that of Mr Lyons.

"Not only was he deliberately flouting the law, but using the society, the object of which was to get the law changed, as a cover to jump the gun and make it unnecessary to change the law," the judge said.

Mr Reed shouted defiantly as he was led down to the cells: "That shows the idiocy of the present law."

Mr Lyons, who had been in prison for 125 days, was released on a two year prison sentence, suspended for two years, with an admonition from the judge: "No more meddling with pills and plastic bags."

Mr Lyons, who was found not guilty on the one charge of murder he faced, was told by the judge: "I ought to send you to prison, you know, but I'm not going to. I'm going to take into account that you have been in prison awaiting trial for 325 days, that you are not as young as you used to be, although you are not as old as I am."

He said he understood that Mr Lyons had learnt his lesson and was not going to "mess about with pills and plastic bags any more."

Explaining that a suspended sentence meant he would "cop it" if he got into any more trouble in the next two years, the judge said: "Keep to the young girls, like Miss Jacobs."

This was a reference to Miss Joanna Jacobs daughter of David Jacobs, the broadcaster, who once invited Mr Lyons to tea and found him a "nice interesting old man". Mr Lyons replied from the dock: "I prefer the older ones."

In unanimous verdicts brought in after 12 hours of deliberation, the jury found Mr Reed, aged 34, of Sandford Walk, New Cross, London, guilty of two charges of aiding and abetting suicide and one of conspiracy. They found Mr Lyons, aged 70, of Fairhazel Gardens, West Hampstead, guilty of five charges of aiding and abetting suicide and one of conspiracy to aid and abet and on an 11 to one majority verdict

Implications of case page 3

Win for British women in world bridge cup

From Harold Franklin, New York, Oct 30

The British ladies' bridge team has won the Venice Cup. This is the first time the trophy has passed out of the hands of the United States since it became an official world championship.

In the qualifying rounds, the United States headed the pool and were the most impressive team, but the British ladies showed a fine capacity to recover quickly from their frequent reverses.

They were at their best when it mattered most—winning all three of their earlier meetings against the United States. They finally triumphed 161-122 in the final.

Four members of the team, Pat Davies of Bristol, Nicole Gardener of London, Sandra Landy of Sussex, and Sally Sowter of Nottingham, bore the

Warsaw threat to ban strikes

From Dossa Trevisan
Warsaw, Oct 30

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Communist Party leader and Prime Minister, announced today that the Government would press Parliament to approve a Bill suspending the right to strike if an anti-strike resolution was ignored.

The move came after the party Central Committee had called for legislation temporarily banning strikes and after Solidarity had staged a one-hour national strike. Before pressing on with the Bill, General Jaruzelski said, the authorities wanted to wait to see if a resolution by the Sejm (parliament) would affect the union, whose leaders last night appealed to members to stop striking. If the resolution went unheeded, the Government would be urgently to get the Bill passed.

"The interests of the Socialist state, the peaceful existence of our nation, must and will be protected," the General said. Obviously the Government, under pressure from many sympathisers, has decided to wait, as it is clear that the Solidarity president has reacted to appeals for moderation. Last night it described the situation as critical and called on members to end the strikes. But on the threat of strike legislation it said: "No one can deprive us of the right to strike, nor shall we permit it."

The Solidarity president will submit to the national commission, which meets on Tuesday, a proposal which would be a kind of self-imposed limit on the right to strike. It envisages disciplinary measures against "anyone who engages in activities which weaken the union."

Clearly it sees the present uncontrollable strikes as doing harm in its appeal to the right to strike. It envisages disciplinary measures against "anyone who engages in activities which weaken the union."

The president is also believed to have written to General Jaruzelski, calling on the Government to meet the legitimate demands of the strikers.

In parliament today the general accused Solidarity of continuing to rebuff all attempts to reach a reasonable understanding.

He said the Government intended to carry out far-reaching reforms. It wanted to set up a council of national agreement, open to all parties, unions and institutions. But to persevere with reforms, law and order had to be restored.

Cabinet changes: General Jaruzelski also announced six ministerial changes. The biggest involved dismissing Mr Stanislaw Mach, a Deputy Prime Minister and his replacement by Mr Edward Kowalczyk, the head of the Communist allied Democratic Party (Reuter reports).

Chicago: Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity leader, had cancelled a scheduled visit to the United States and Canada next month because of the situation in Poland, the Polish American Congress here said.

England can book passage to India

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, Oct 30

The England cricket tour of India is on. The Indian cricket authorities said at a hastily summoned press conference here tonight that difficulties created by the inclusion in the party of Geoff Boycott and Geoff Cook had been resolved.

The Boycott and Cook issue had threatened the three-month tour. The Indian Government had apparently objected to their having played in South Africa. Although that objection had never been confirmed nor denied, the English authorities made it clear that they would not drop these players.

The Indian Government was said to be satisfied with clarification from the Test and County Cricket Board in England.

No objection to Boycott and Cook had been raised until October 15 when it was reported that the political affairs committee of the Cabinet had taken a different view. The Indian Cricket Board of Control reported this to the English authorities. With the tour due to start on November 6, the matter had to be resolved quickly.

The Indian Government was in a dilemma. Cricket is the country's greatest sporting passion and cancellation of the tour, robbing followers of the opportunity to see heroes like Boycott and Botham, would have been highly unpopular.

But India was anxious not to damage its standing as an enemy of apartheid or to harm its relations with African countries.

Mr S. K. Wankhede, president of the Indian Board of Control, and Mr A. W. Kamadkar, the secretary, said tonight that the tour would go on with all the players originally selected.

They said that the TCCB, in giving "satisfactory clarification" stated that it did not permit tours of South Africa. The TCCB had told them that players had been advised that if they played in international or representative matches in South Africa they would not be eligible to play for England. The TCCB also told its Indian counterpart that Boycott and Cook had expressed opposition to apartheid.

Although officials at Lord's had last night still not heard officially from the Indian board, they have been assured by the Indian High Commission in London that the tour is on, the Press Association reports.

Mr Neil Macfarlane, the Minister for Sport, said he was delighted. "This is great news for all cricket lovers. It is a decision that can only be for the good of the game in all the countries that it is played."

Mr Raman Subba Row, manager of the England party, said: "We have hoped against hope that this would be the answer. It is a great day for cricket because the consequences otherwise would, I feel, have been very serious for cricket, and perhaps for sport, throughout the world."

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Share in our success

COMMODITY SHARE FUND RECORD			
PERIODS TO 1st OCTOBER 1981	UNIT OFFER PRICE	UNIT CHANGE	FTSE ALL-SHARE INDEX
2 yrs	+ 36.8%	+ 9.3%	
3 yrs	+ 71.6%	+ 22.0%	
5 yrs	+ 137.3%	+ 106.3%	
10 yrs	+ 287.3%	+ 53.6%	
15 yrs	+ 424.4%	+ 199.1%	

We believe commodity prices must rise soon and that commodity companies should be among the first to benefit from the forecast recovery from recession. The reasons are:

- * Increased demand will lead to higher commodity prices.
- * Current low stocks will need to be replenished, increasing demand further.
- * There is little scope for increasing production in the short term.
- * Any new investment will take years to expand capacity.

Our current strategy is to increase holdings in those countries nearly self-sufficient in energy and in raw materials, with a consequent strong currency. This should further boost the Fund's performance.

To purchase units in Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund complete and return the coupon below, together with your cheque. On 28th October 1981 the offer price of units was 142.6p, giving an estimated gross starting yield of 3.25% p.a.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Fund objective: To provide a portfolio of shares in commodity companies which will benefit from the recovery in commodity prices. The fund is managed by the Commodity Share Fund Managers, who are experienced in the management of commodity companies. The fund is open to all investors and is subject to the usual risks of investment in shares. The fund is not a bank and does not provide a safe deposit for your money. The fund is not insured and does not have any guarantee of return. The fund is not a bank and does not provide a safe deposit for your money. The fund is not insured and does not have any guarantee of return.

Why Not Share in Our Success Today?
The Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund is a public limited company, registered in England No. 188729. Reg. office as above.

With interest: Investment (initial investment £250) in Save & Prosper Commodity Share Fund. Please send cheque made payable to Save & Prosper Securities Limited, 100, The Quadrant, London W1A 1AA. Please tick appropriate boxes: ☐ I am a resident of the United Kingdom. ☐ I am a resident of the Republic of Ireland. I am over 18.

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

Extremist groups 'destroying trust of doctors'

From Arthur Osman, Leicester

Sir Douglas Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, yesterday attacked extremist groups such as Life and EXIT from the witness box at Leicester Crown Court.

He was giving evidence for the defence at the trial of Dr Leonard Arthur, accused of attempting to murder a baby, John Pearson, who died three days after his birth. Sir Douglas accused the two organisations of helping to destroy the confidence of doctors and nurses.

The chairman of Life reported Dr Arthur to the police and his prosecution followed. The consultant paediatrician, aged 55, who has six children, has denied the attempted murder of the three-day-old Down's syndrome baby at Derby City Hospital in July last year, after the parents had rejected him. The charge was reduced from murder earlier this week after the jury had heard 10 days of evidence.

Sir Douglas, who has been president since 1977, is also consultant editor to the *Journal of Medical Ethics*. He was asked by Mr George Curran, QC, leading for the defence, where the groups had rejected him in terms of pressure groups which had adopted a fixed policy at each end of the spectrum.

He said: "I feel quite emotional about this and would like to express an adverse opinion from the point of view of my profession on the activities of these groups such as Life and EXIT, and I can give grounds for that."

"I think they are attempting to apply simplistic, rigid rules to situations which do not admit of the proper application of such rules and of course, this has several results."

He said he was not casting any aspersions on the motivation of people in Life or EXIT, but added that the consequences of such actions could be serious.

Among those consequences was that doctors and parents counselling together might be deprived of solutions which might be compassionate.

He continued: "As I understand it, and this applies particularly to Life and EXIT, encouragement is given to information

systems within hospitals, and this cannot be but destructive for the confidence of the medical and nursing professions."

"The application of such rigid rules leaves between them no room whatever for professional discretion. Professional discretion is not an arbitrary matter and it is not exercised by members of the profession in their own interest but is exercised in the interests of patients."

"I think that is where the paediatrician has an essential role to discover with the parents what seems to be the best thing for the future of the child and the family."

Mr Justice Farquharson remarked that one could, of course, understand that rigid rules of practice such as simple rules of practice could be enforced by any lobbying body would inhibit the practice of medicine in various ways.

The case before the court was concerned with what was on it by law, which was what the court was seeking to discover.

He said there must be some limit at some point.

Sir Douglas said he would be inclined to make a distinction between errors of judgment and criminality, which was the particular thing defined by law.

"Wrongdoing, which is a thought, was something one defined for one's self in the light of one's moral convictions."

Sir Douglas was also asked what guidelines were available to consultants, particularly a paediatrician.

He said that guidelines were possible only where variables could be competently assessed, and added that the clinical situation of a child could vary from normality right through to a state where it had no possibility of an intellectual life.

Parents' attitudes might vary from an understandable revulsion right up to loving acceptance. Medical management, within the total limit of recognized practice, might vary from no active measures right up to the use of life support.

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EXIT verdict is blow to euthanasia campaign

By Frances Gibb

The ambitions of an over-zealous, failed academic who exploited his public post with EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, to flout the law and help people to kill themselves, were revealed yesterday by the verdict of a jury at the trial of Dr Leonard Arthur, accused of attempting to murder a baby, John Pearson, who died three days after his birth.

Nicholas Reed, the Oxford classicist who became the general secretary of EXIT, was sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment for using a bogus doctor aged 70 as an "instrument of death", putting him in touch with the suicidal and ill.

But Mark Lyons, the self-styled spiritual healer who claimed to have been a Samaritan, received the traditional penalty for euthanasia of a suspended sentence.

The impact of the case goes far wider than the two defendants. Despite the Crown's assurance that the trial had nothing to do with EXIT's views on euthanasia and that no one doubted it to be a genuine society supported by many people, the case with heavy death penalties has been a blow to the society at the spearhead of that campaign.

The case was unprecedented in legal history. In the past the law has looked kindly on instances of "mercy-killing", where no evil motive was involved, and a guilty verdict led to a conditional discharge or probation. But each of those was a single episode carried out within the privacy of a family; not, as here, an organized service carried out by a stranger who came in answer to a distress call.

The case was also one of the most bizarre. As Mr John Bingham, QC, put it, to say that his clients, Lyons and Reed, were eccentric would perhaps be the understatement of the year.

Most doctors were deceived. As the details unfolded, it emerged that Nicholas Reed, in knowing defiance of the law and at risk of 14 years' imprisonment, had put together a service which was to be carried out by a stranger who came in answer to a distress call.

Lyons, under various aliases—Dr Arthur, Victor, Dr Arthur Head—would then visit them dressed in his woolly hat and with a cane, and help them to "go home" with the aid of his suicide kit.

The whole secretive operation, which was the main part of the doctors' certificate, came to light only by chance last year. A post-mortem examination after the death in December, 1979, of Mrs Henry Crystal, a sufferer for many

years from multiple sclerosis, revealed she had died from poisoning by a barbiturate-based drug, and alcohol.

About that time a team from Thames Television had been gathering material on euthanasia and had already interviewed a relative of a person whom Lyons had helped to die, and Lyons himself. Four days before the programme was due to be broadcast they heard of the suspicious suicide in the case of Mrs Crystal and attended the inquest.

There the link was made. Lyons was identified from the team's photographs by two women at the inquest. They were from a building society and had been at Mrs Crystal's house to write out cheques the day she died and were there when Lyons arrived. The programme material, unscreened, was handed over to the police.

Ironically, it was Reed's own obsession for publicity which led to the discovery. He had sent the television team to interview the relative of the first woman assisted by Lyons.

When the police arrested Lyons as his bedroom room in west Hampstead, north London, they found "literally thousands" of pills in his room, they described it as a "pharmacy" of drugs, including 13 kinds available only on prescription, one a controlled narcotic.

They also found the suicide kit, one in a plastic carrier bag, the other in a humul containing drugs, thick elastic bands and plastic gloves, a pair of thin rubber gloves and a quarter bottle of brandy.

But most crucial of all to the investigation, they found his diaries, several exercise books written in close script, which recorded meticulously his dealings since 1969 down to every mail, conversation and telephone call, including the time he "hung up". They were, he told the police, for his eventual autobiography.

The two made a striking contrast. Lyons was a tall, dark, scruffy man with a long grey beard and one eye (the other is artificial), sitting dressed in a muffled and old coat beside the fireplace. Reed, on the other hand, was a small, dark, neatly in suit and tie and complete with EXIT badge.

Lyons rambled, reminisced and joked. In a colourful two-page statement from the dock, which failed even to deal with the charges for three hours, he told his life history. There were moments of high comedy: on one occasion, exasperated with his rambling, the judge tried him to come to the point. "I'll help you all I can, sir," Lyons, a start performer, replied, "even with a plastic bag."

Reed, a Labour councillor



Mark Lyons (left) and Nicholas Reed, who aided suicides

with the London Borough of Lewisham who served on his local Age Concern committee, spoke articulately, with care and a confidence verging on the cocksure. "I did my MA in one year instead of the usual two," he told the judge.

But the two had one thing in common, frustrated ambition coupled with a desire for recognition. After Oxford Reed taught classics for two years, earning enough to support himself through an MA course. He then embarked on a doctorate but never finished it and settled for an M Phil.

His learned articles seemed to fall on deaf ears and by 1977 he realised he would not make it as an academic. But Reed was also politically ambitious and when the post of assistant secretary of EXIT came up that year, it provided an outlet for his energies as a daim.

A member of EXIT, then the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, since 1972, Reed had already made his mark in a voluntary capacity: he was soon an executive committee member, then honorary president (1974) and less than a year after becoming assistant secretary, was general secretary.

Twelve Lyons had always laboured a desire to be a doctor and when he first turned up at EXIT offering his help he claimed to be first a doctor of medicine, later a doctor of philosophy.

"All my life," he told the court, "I wanted to be a doctor because I saw my mother suffering so much and whenever I went they said: 'Sorry, your learning days are over, you're blind in one eye. Moorfields

told me my sight would greatly deteriorate, and that was when I gave up to despair."

He also believed he had spiritual healing powers inherited from his mother and that these came from an outside force he called his "puppet master", who also governed his thoughts and actions.

His "PM" had told him at the age of six: "You will retire at 45." Since that time, the court heard, Lyons, who worked as a Samaritan, had sat in his bedchamber room "listening to my bloody PM", who told him he had come to earth to do great work.

Idea of death booklet was born

The time was ripe to meet both their needs in October, 1979, that was the turning point for EXIT, as it was then renamed, to promote a punchier, more up-to-date image. The public debate on euthanasia, literally "gentle, easy death" had taken off.

The year before Derek Humphry, a journalist and later founder of Hemlock, an American "right to die" group, published *Just Say Yes*, a moving account of how he helped his wife, who had cancer, to end her life.

And Dr Colin Brewer, a psychiatrist, admitted in a medical magazine once trying unsuccessfully to end, at his request, the life of a terminally ill patient. Scotland Yard investigated both cases but proceeded with neither.

Against that background the idea of a "do-it-yourself"

euthanasia sprang into being. Until then, EXIT had concentrated on trying to change the law. Now a new option seemed open and one not liable to legal action.

In this heady excitement the idea of a booklet telling people how to end their lives was born, and with it the society changed direction from being a euthanasia society to a "suicide club".

From then on EXIT was in the public eye and faced the full force of the media. In expectation of the booklet membership swelled from 2,000 to its present 12,000 and almost overnight the society's income rose from about £5,000 in 1979 to almost £60,000.

It was at that time, according to Lyons, that he approached Reed with the idea of joining people "not to botch it", and although one of the suicides in the case occurred late in 1978, the bulk were around the end of 1979. "I told Nick, if anybody needs help, who you get a distress call, you put them in touch with me. He said 'OK'."

As one observer put it: "Everyone who phoned up at that time wanted the booklet. And because there was no booklet Mark Lyons took its place."

Reed had then transformed a rather gentle, passive society into a thriving, media-conscious pressure group. He published newsletters and commissioned opinion polls showing 69 per cent of the general public in favour of euthanasia. But it was the booklet more than anything that gave EXIT its new image.

From the start Reed was bent on publication. His methods

were described by some of the old guard members who opposed the booklet and by some of the original executive committee as "utterly ruthless and opportunistic."

A behind-the-scenes battle ensued between Reed and the committee. In a series of skilful manoeuvres, Reed ensured that at the next annual general meeting, in October, 1980, almost the entire committee, which by then was against publication on the basis of legal advice, was replaced and a new committee elected.

The controversial booklet, *A Guide to Self-Destruction*, finally appeared last June. By then it had already appeared in Scotland, where the law permitted publication and where the EXIT membership had formed a separate society.

It has sold more than 6,000 copies at 56 pence, and was backed by such people as Arthur Koestler, who wrote the forward, and Lord Beaumont of Whitley, the Liberal peer, who took on the post of chairman of the executive committee (he has since resigned) to see the booklet through.

But it also provoked a chorus of criticism, some from EXIT members themselves, such as Sir Paul Davis, a former City Remembrancer; Lord Soper, the leading Methodist; and Lord Kennedy, the broadcaster.

A dismal and pathetic life

At the trial, in the defendants' favour were the tragic cases involved: sufferers from cancer, multiple sclerosis, spinal osteoarthritis. Moving statements from their relatives made clear their longing to die, told that Lyons was arriving at 4 o'clock, one man, whose cancer had spread to the brain, asked: "Can't he come any sooner?"

In spite of his eccentricities, Lyons emerged as a man with some warmth and compassion (with at times a bad temper), ekings out a dismal, pathetic life, obsessed with food, his finances and bodily functions.

He enjoyed music and was distraught when his set of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, together with four weeks' supply of postboxes to get him through the trial, seemed to have been taken from his cell at Brixton. Even on remand, he offered to help out a prisoner in the next box of the hospital wing who had failed in his attempt to commit suicide.

But on the other side of the coin were the cold-blooded references to plastic bags or bin liners: such comments by Lyons as "Bag took 15 minutes to get cold"; his anger with a woman who changed her mind about suicide and fury that she had "disobeyed his commands". Others, he told a friend on the telephone, "could not get the bloody rabbits down quick enough."

Disabled barrister wins tax test case

By Kenneth Gossling

Thousands of disabled people are likely to receive a tax rebate as a result of a determined and single-handed battle by a Bristol barrister who has been disabled for most of his life.

Mr Peter Willows, aged 58, an income tax specialist at Radland, Bristol, yesterday won a high court appeal against a decision of the Special Tax Commissioners in March last year that he should be assessed for income tax on his £481 mobility allowance for the year 1978-79.

He expects to receive £350-£400 in back tax and he said yesterday: "I am very happy my appeal has been allowed: it is the principle I was fighting for."

The ruling by Mr Justice Nourse came as a surprise to groups representing the disabled, who had not been aware that tax might not be liable on mobility allowance paid between January 1, 1976, and April 1, 1979, when the law was changed, making it subject to tax.

But Mr Willows said he had come to the conclusion three and a half years ago that the mobility allowance was not taxable. And his opinion, though rejected by local tax inspectors, then by the commissioners, was upheld by the judge.

He said that although Mr Willows' case was only concerned with the tax year 1978-79, the ruling was likely to be of wide application. It would apply, the judge said, to all mobility allowance paid before April 1, 1979, when the law was changed.

There are 200,000 people receiving mobility allowance of £14.50 a week, which rises to £16.50 on November 25.

The scheme of tax legislation applied to social security benefits, the judge said, was to impose a general charge to income tax with special exceptions. He said the 1975 tax legislation contained no reference to mobility allowance being either taxable or exempt.

Since tax laws had to be interpreted strictly, it could not be assumed, as the Crown had contended, that the allowance was subject to tax.

Mr Willows said last night that after looking into the tax question—and having not been entitled to the allowance originally because of his age—he had gone to the special commissioners after approaching local inspectors without success.

"They considered it for about an hour and a half and then turned it down flat," he said.

Because of his disability, Mr Willows has never practised in court. He was an assistant legal adviser to Bristol Corporation for 12 years and then went into business for himself. "But I got tuberculosis on top of everything else and had to discontinue my company."

The inland Revenue last night would make no comment on the case until they had seen the ruling. Mr Willows said it was possible they would appeal, "but I do not fancy that they will."

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Condemned meat controls called inadequate

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent

Government plans to strengthen laws to prevent condemned meat from being sold as a grocery ingredient were criticised yesterday by Mr Bruce Cova, chief environmental health officer of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

He was pleased that the Government wanted much condemned meat to be stained before it was sold, but said it should be backed up with a lot more than has been put forward so far, he went on. "There are certain loopholes that I would want to be discussed at much greater length."

Mr Cova said outside a London court on Thursday that the fines imposed on two meat traders shortly before had been ludicrous. The two men and a company of which they were directors had admitted a total of 183 offences under food and drugs laws.

Proposals for strengthening the laws were issued yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, which controls the food industry and zoos keepers, but not to veterinary or medical bodies. The ministry refused to issue the letter sent with the proposals by Mr Jack Reynolds, one of its assistant secretaries.

Mr Reynolds wrote that staining alone would not be enough to prevent abuse. "There would remain substantial scope for evasion unless there was a very considerable increase in vigilance, which we accept is likely to be ruled out by financial and manpower constraints," he wrote.

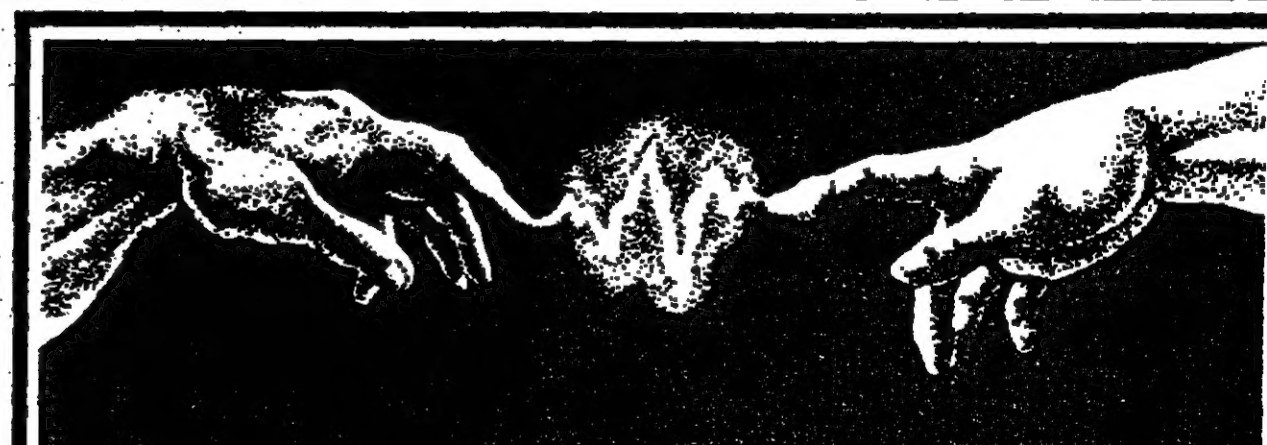
The Government therefore wanted the staining rule to be backed by "a general requirement for the prior authorization of all movements of this material."

Mr Cova, who said he was speaking in personal capacity, commented that the government plans covered 16 points in a paper about staining from the Institution of Environmental Health Officers; it did not cover a further 25 points.

He considered the proposed increase in the maximum fine for offences under the Food and Drugs Act from £100 to £1,000 to be inadequate. We want it to be indicative, he said.

He regretted that the Government did not plan to give enforcement officers the right to enter premises to inspect documents.

down the Mississippi with the young English author whose new book *Old Glory* has become a bestseller in the USA



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Baryshnikov's new ballet

an exclusive film about the preparation of Baryshnikov's new ballet with interviews, rehearsals and full performance for the American Theatre Ballet

PINTER-FOWLES-REISZ

West aiming for Namibia progress by end of year

From Michael Hornsby, Windhoek, Oct 30

Western negotiators today ended their talks with the internal political parties here on the constitutional basis for an independent Namibia, and expressed optimism that the first phase of the independence process could be completed by the end of the year.

Speaking at a press conference before flying to Botswana and five other front-line black African states, Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, described the talks as very worthwhile.

Planned by Sir Leonard Allinson, a senior Foreign Office diplomat, and other colleagues from France, West Germany and Canada, Dr Crocker said: "We are leaving with a sense of having achieved what we set out to do."

In their day and a half here, the Western mission received a bewildering procession of delegates from 17 parties. One of them was the multiracial Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), itself a grouping of 11 separate parties, each representing one of the distinct ethnic groups (including whites) that make up Namibia's diverse population of one million.

In practice, only the DTA and three or four other political groups are of any consequence and capable of offering any real opposition in free elections to the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), which has been fighting a guerrilla war against South African rule in Namibia for the last 15 years.

Support for most of the other parties is not thought to extend much beyond the immediate family and friends of their leaders. Faced with elections, many of them would be likely to disappear or be assimilated into larger groups.

In an unexpected move today, the Western team also received a deputation from the shadowy internal wing of SWAPO, which is not technically illegal in Namibia, though its representatives are frequently harassed

and detained by security police. Apart from the two main white-based parties, whose rejection yesterday of the West's proposals could be an obstacle to securing South Africa's agreement, all the other groups consulted approved the constitutional draft, but questioned whether its principles could be made to stick after independence.

The Western five were able to offer little comfort on that score, arguing that once a country had become independent no outside powers could be expected to act as guarantors of its internal developments, as some of the parties here had requested.

The main fear, here, is that if SWAPO were to win elections by a big majority, it could gradually move the country towards a one-party system despite constitutional restraints. Several delegates cited Zimbabwe as an example.

The most the West was prepared to offer was to study, in Dr Crocker's words, "ways of formalizing" the constitutional principles. One possibility, according to senior diplomatic sources, might be to embody them in a United Nations resolution.

This is as far as the West can go because SWAPO, and its backers in the black African states, argue that it is the elected constituent assembly which should draw up a constitution for Namibia, and they are reluctant to accept cast-iron constitutional commitments before the elections.

When the current round of negotiations is completed in a week's time, Dr Crocker and his colleagues will circulate a revised draft of their constitutional draft, which will try to meet some of the objections that have been raised. The changes are likely, however, to be fairly minor.

The West is also awaiting responses from the South African Government, the black African states, and SWAPO. Only if all these are positive, will the West move on to the next phase,



Flying visit: Senior officers of the Chinese Air Force, led by Mr Zhang Zhong (second left) Deputy Chief of Staff, examining an X-ray of an aircraft fuselage with an RAF officer at RAF Brawdy, Dyfed, yesterday. The Chinese team, on a fact-finding tour which ends today, also visited the RAF College, Cranwell, and other stations.

Obote asks Asians to return

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Oct 30

President Milton Obote of Uganda said today his government was preparing to compensate the Asians who were expelled from Uganda by the Amin regime in 1972. Alternatively, they were welcome to return to Uganda and take back the businesses and other property confiscated from them.

His Uganda People's Congress Government was committed to a mixed economy and did not believe in nationalization, he told a large audience at Makerere university, Kampala, when he was installed as Chancellor of the University. He said Uganda had been plunged into "a pit of poverty" by President Amin, but it was now climbing out of that pit.

It was the second time Dr Obote had been installed as Chancellor of the university. He held the position before he was ousted in a military coup in 1971. He returned to office as President after the election last December, the first held since Uganda became independent in 1962.

Zimbabwe oil pipeline link is sabotaged

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Oct 30

Explosions apparently set off by saboteurs in central Mozambique two days ago have seriously damaged road and rail bridges connecting Zimbabwe with the port of Beira. This afternoon it became known that the oil pipeline on which the Government here has been pinning its energy plans had also been hit.

A spokesman for Lonrho, which owns the controlling share in the pipeline, confirmed that it had been damaged but said it was too early to say how seriously. It was possible that the scheduled opening would be delayed.

Mozambique radio in a broadcast monitored here claimed that the attack had been carried out by "South African special units aided by Mozambique counter-revolutionaries," a reference to the rebel Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) which is waging a guerrilla war in Mozambique.

The pipeline runs from Beira to Umtali in east Zimbabwe and is in theory capable of transmitting all Zimbabwe's fuel requirements of about 700,000 tons a year. Having been closed

Dismissal of communist is upheld

From Patricia Clough Bonn, Oct 30

Herr Hans Peter, aged 51, who has worked for the West German Post Office for 30 years, was without a job today because he is an active member of the Communist Party.

The Federal Administrative Court in West Berlin ruled that Herr Peter's political activities were incompatible with the law that state employees must be true to the West German state and its constitutional principles.

The Communist Party did not support such principles, it found. The decision, which was much criticized in the press, was the result of the *Berliner Morgenpost*, the highly controversial regulations banning political extremists from state employment.

The practice caused an outcry after people like engine drivers and Army cooks were dismissed and when tens of thousands of young applicants were checked with the security services, and those who had associated with political groups or demonstrations were barred.

The Federal Government has since dispensed with the preliminary checks in most cases but the ban against active opponents of the present system remains.

The *Süddeutsche Zeitung* commented: "That a communist cannot remain a postal official is really rather narrow-minded." *Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung* protested: "As if a little post official can bring the freedom of our state into danger." *West Deutsche Zeitung* said: "The communists, who are a tiny minority in the Federal Republic, again have a reason to despise the 'wicked' state. The decision does more harm than good."

Soviet sub captain changes mind over Swedish questioning

From David Brown, Stockholm, Oct 30

The submarine was in such a sensitive area. A defence staff spokesman said the submarine would not be refloated until a full explanation had been obtained. "We have plenty of time," he answered when asked how long the Swedish authorities were prepared to wait.

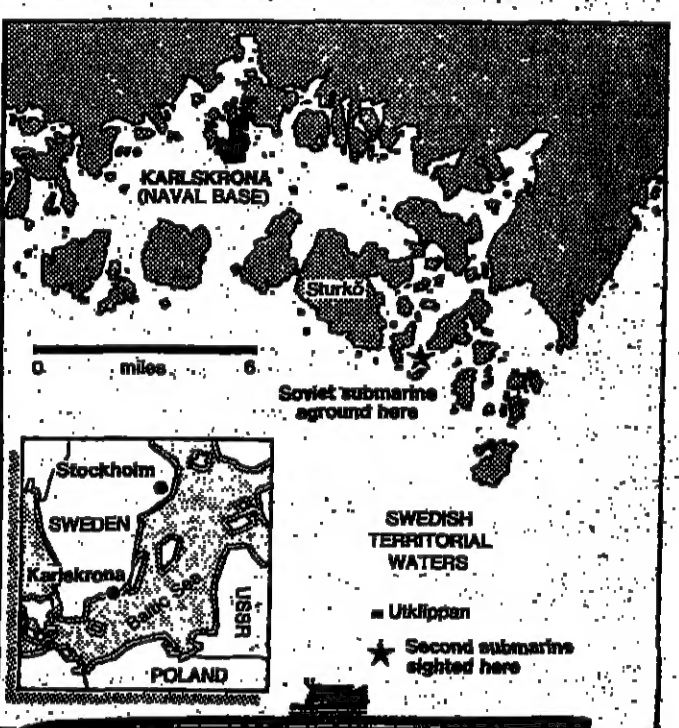
The Government yesterday rejected a Soviet request to free the submarine with its own salvage vessels and Moscow later agreed that Swedish vessels only should take part in the operation. But about 10 Soviet vessels, including two destroyers and several tugs, were still in the vicinity outside Swedish waters today, a spokesman said.

There has been no further sign of the unidentified submarine sighted just outside the restricted area yesterday, he added. It was the second sighting of an unidentified submarine in the area this year.

Swedish divers inspecting the stranded submarine found little serious damage, despite the fact that it is at least 20 years old. The stern was struck by and very close to an island and the vessel was listing slightly to port.

The Swedish navy continued off the area to prevent accidents with small private craft gathering round the stricken submarine, a defence staff spokesman said.

The submarine has a radio frequency available for communication with the Soviet Union but defence sources do not know if any signal had been monitored.



The map on Thursday incorrectly plotted the grounded submarine to the south-west of Karlskrona.

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Antiguan independence

Fragile future for a tiny tourist state

From Jeremy Taylor, St John's, Antigua, Oct 30

Barrel six weeks after granting Belize its precarious independence, Britain sets free the last vestige of its remaining Caribbean dependencies, Antigua, this week.

As the Union Jack comes down for the last time at midnight tomorrow in the island's recreation ground, ending three and a half centuries of British domination, Antigua's 74,000 population will face a fragile future as a tiny state far from self-reliance. There is also a possibly explosive threat of secession by Barbuda, its sister island.

Unlike Belize, nobody in Antigua seems to oppose independence. Even the opposition Progressive Labour Movement (PLM) supports it, having campaigned for it while in office in the early 1970s.

"Can we depend on the mother country to guide our destiny?" asks one of the patriotic cypresses competing for radio time and promotion for a "instant money game" and the American accents of preachers and disc jockeys.

"It's time we stand on our own feet... make independence mean something."

The Government is spending an estimated £625,000 on independence celebrations and has lifted the 15 per cent consumption tax on paint, so that many of the jaded shops and offices in St John's, the sprawling capital, have had a multi-coloured facelift.

The obligatory British warships are in the harbour, ready to give a midnight welcome salvo. A modest new parliament building and a new airport terminal are ready for opening, and cranes are struggling to complete an independence arch of three slender concrete pillars next to the recreation ground, one of which somebody dropped at the first attempt.

Antigua, a leisurely, uncrowded island of 108 square miles with more than 300 white sand beaches, has been virtually independent for 14 years already. In 1967 it was one of

six Caribbean associated states for which Britain retained only defence and foreign affairs responsibility.

Its politics have been dominated for 25 years by Mr Vere Bird, now 71 and the last survivor of the Caribbean independence generation of tough, mainly union-based politicians that included Bustamante, Norman Manley, George Adams and Eric Williams.

A wily pro-Western politician, Mr Bird, who has spent only five years in opposition since 1956, becomes Antigua's first Prime Minister in a spirit of raking a hard line on labour unrest and riding a scandal set off by the Canadian Space Research Corporation, which in the mid-1970s was using Antigua as a trans-shipment point for military equipment destined for South Africa.

Mr Bird was swept back to power in April last year when his Antiguan Labour Party won 58 per cent of the vote and 13 of the 27 seats in the House of Representatives.

He is expected to hand over before long to his burly son and deputy, Lester.

Antigua's most famous export is the cricket, Vire Richards, followed by sea island cotton. Its economy has been built loosely around tourism which is now suffering from international recession.

Antigua plays host to three American military bases as well as a new Voice of America medium wave transmitter and the BBC's Caribbean relay station.

Apart from winning enough economic support to survive, the one problem that will really test Mr Bird's political skills is Barbuda, a flat coral island 30 miles to the north, whose 1,500 people have their own island council and are complaining loudly of neglect by the central government in St John's.

The Barbudans refused to sign the final accord at the end of Antigua's constitutional conference in London last December.

Hijackers win release of prisoners

San Salvador, Oct 30—Five right-wing extremists, who seized a Costa Rican aircraft landed in El Salvador today after releasing hostages in Costa Rica in exchange for six jailed Nicaraguans.

A Salvadorean military spokesman said the hijackers were detained along with the freed prisoners at an undisclosed landing strip inside El Salvador.

The two pilots were allowed to fly back to the Costa Rican capital, San José, where the aircraft was landed. The hijackers had demanded the release of seven prisoners, but Costa Rican officials, who arranged the exchange, said one of them, a Costa Rican, refused to leave jail.

About 15 passengers were freed when the exchange took place on the tarmac of San José's international airport.

The attitude towards the hijackers of the Salvadorean authorities was not immediately clear. But informed sources said it was likely to be sympathetic as the civilian military junta here was opposed to Nicaragua's leftist Government.

The well-armed hijackers had held the aircraft and about 20 passengers for 17 hours before the Costa Rican authorities released the six men.

The prisoners were allowed to join the hijackers on the small aircraft at dawn today in exchange for the hostages who included three Americans, two Britons and a Swiss.

The hijackers, who had threatened to kill one hostage every hour if their demands were not met, then took off with the freed prisoners.—Reuters.

SECURITY COUNCIL POLL DELAY

New York, Oct 30—The Security Council, in which the chief United States delegate called a deadlock within a deadlock, has suspended its search for the new Secretary-General of the United Nations.

A meeting to resume balloting for the candidates of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the incumbent, and Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, of Tanzania, was cancelled.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States delegate, said neither Dr Waldheim nor Mr Salim would withdraw militantly. Until they did no candidate wanted to press himself.—Reuters.

Cuba break condemned

Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 30—Jamaica's main opposition party last night condemned the Government's decision to break off diplomatic relations with Cuba and accused it of using fictitious arguments.

Yesterday, Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, announced the break because authorities in Havana were harbouring three criminals wanted by Jamaican police.

The Cuban Chargé d'Affaires in Kingston was given 48 hours to leave the country.

The left-wing opposition People's National Party, which was defeated by Mr Seaga's conservative Jamaica Labour Party in the general election year ago, said Mr Seaga had used "fictitious arguments to justify allegations of interference in Jamaica's internal affairs.—Reuters.

Tanks and troops out in force after Bangkok bombs

Bangkok, Oct. 30.—Tanks rumbled through parts of Bangkok today and troops and police in the Thai capital were put on full alert indefinitely after two unexplained bomb attacks this week.

The increased security was accompanied by rumours of an attempted coup, but diplomats said the show of strength was more likely to be linked to attempts to discredit rival factions within the armed forces.

General Arthit Kamlang Ek, Assistant Commander-in-Chief and Commander of the First Army, who ordered the alert last night, said this month was a key figure in crushing an attempted military coup in April against General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Prime Minister.

General Arthit sent tanks past the parliament building today, two days after the bomb attacks which injured two people. He said the alert was a normal precaution to ensure peace and security.

A government spokesman said in a report broadcast by Thai radio tonight that the appearance of tanks on Bangkok's streets was part of preparations for a military display.

Military sources said about 1,000 troops were put on alert. Throughout the day police patrols and cars were stationed at main intersections and spot checks were made. Otherwise activity in the capital continued normally and there were no signs of nervousness.

The bomb attacks on two

government buildings in Bangkok, which were alleged to have led to the alert, remained a mystery, according to police. Both bombs were planted in lavatories. They injured two office workers in adjoining rooms. No one has claimed responsibility.

Some 24 hours later soldiers from special units surrounded and patrolled near the homes of two colonels who were dismissed after they led the attempt to overthrow General Prem seven months ago.

The plotters, called Young Turks, led by army units, which seized Bangkok on April 1. The capital was re-taken by General Arthit without resistance three days later when the royal family intervened and made known its support for General Prem.

General Arthit, a major-general at the time, was quickly promoted to the rank of full general. He became the country's third-ranking general as commander of the key First Army, stationed around Bangkok, and Assistant Chief of the Army.

The coup rumours during the past 24 hours said junior commanders, possibly abetted by former Young Turk officers opposed to General Arthit, were preparing some power and stop his advance. There was no clear sign that this was so.

Other reports from diplomats speculated that General Arthit was using the security alert to discredit his opponents and further consolidate his military power.—Reuter.

Trudeau warns Britain on patriation

From John Best
Ottawa, Oct. 30

Mr. Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, said today that Britain would have to pay a "political price" if it turned down a request from Canada for patriation of the Canadian constitution. He suggested that one result might be worsened Anglo-Canadian relations.

The Prime Minister generally struck a conciliatory note in advance of his meeting with Canada's 10 provincial premiers here next week on bringing home the constitution.

Asked at a press conference whether he would go ahead with his unilateral patriation initiative, in the absence of a federal provincial agreement, he said he hoped fears about the outcome of next week's meeting would prove groundless.

Eight of the premiers have doggedly opposed Mr. Trudeau's plan, now awaiting final House of Commons approval, for bringing home the 1867 British North American Act, with an amending formula and a Canadian bill of rights attached. The Supreme Court of Canada ruled last month that the federal initiative, while strictly legal, violated established conventions requiring provincial concurrence.

Mr. Trudeau said it would be "very bad" for Britain to refuse to hand over the constitution of an independent country. "I don't think the British are ready to do it (refuse). If the British break the convention they are going to pay the price politically."



A man who wants to die arrives at a court in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to hear his mother's petition for a reprieve. Colin Clark is due to be executed for murder on November 5. He has said he would rather die than spend his life in prison.

US may seize oilfields, Tass says Russia attacks Awacs sale to Saudi Arabia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Oct. 30

The Russians have described the sale of American Awacs early warning aircraft systems to Saudi Arabia as "a fresh round in the arms race" in the Middle East. They said the Americans were trying to expand their influence in an area that was already explosive enough.

Tass reports of the Senate approval of the deal said the Administration was paying the way for possible armed American intervention to seize Middle East oilfields. Under the pretext of servicing the equipment, the Pentagon would send 800 extra military personnel to Saudi Arabia.

An additional aim was an attempt to tie Saudi Arabia to the Camp David process, which had been rejected by the Arab world, the agency said.

Tass said the Senate vote came after "unprecedented pressure from the White House" and noted that this showed that the White House was able to influence the Senate's attitudes when it wanted to. Tass contrasted President Reagan's commitment to the sale with the failure of the Administration to persuade Congress to ratify the Salt 2 agreement limiting nuclear arms.

□ Rome: The Italian Cabinet today approved in principle Italian participation in an international peace force for the Sinai peninsula, on the understanding that Britain, France and Holland, among European Community members, will also participate (John Earle writes).

The force, comprising contingents also from the United States and other countries, will be sent to the area of Sinai to be evacuated by Israel next April under the Camp David agreement.

No decision has been taken yet on the form of the Italian contribution, but it may consist of light naval vessels.

Italian participation is generally supported by the Government parties, but is opposed by the Communists on the grounds that the contingent will be operating outside the Nato area, under leadership not of the United Nations but of the United States, in furtherance of a settlement rejected by several states in the region.

With today's Cabinet decision the Government does not consider that it has identified itself with the Camp David agreement. Rather, its action has been governed by the European Community's declaration at its Venice summit, on self-determination for the Palestinians, and by the Security Council's resolution 242, calling on Israel to hand back occupied Arab territories.

□ Cairo: Egyptian police arrested 34 Muslim extremists last night and today, bringing to 58 the number detained since President Sadat was assassinated three weeks ago, security sources said.

The sources said some of the latest arrests were in the wealthy southern Cairo suburb of Maadi, scene of several gun battles last week when security forces stormed fundamentalist hideouts.—Reuter.

Protest at plan for developing mosque

From Christopher Walker,
Jerusalem, Oct. 30

More than 2,500 Muslim Arabs today converged on the abandoned Hassan Bey Mosque between Tel Aviv and the ancient port of Jaffa for a protest meeting against a scheme to develop the site into a commercial and tourist centre.

The controversial scheme has already angered a number of members of the Israeli Cabinet who are anxious that no damage should be done to Israel's reputation as a trustworthy guardian of the Christian and Muslim holy sites, now under its jurisdiction.

Today's protest was called by the Waqf (Islamic Religious Trust) which is appealing for funds to renovate the mosque. The issue has been taken up as a rallying cry by a number of radical Arabs inside Israel and in the occupied territories.

Constructed during the First World War by the Turkish commandant of Jaffa (later whom it was named), the mosque gained notoriety in the 1948 war of independence when its towering minaret became a favourite vantage point for Arab snipers firing down on Jews in the streets of Tel Aviv.

Bullet scars remain engraved in the heavy stone. But the building itself has fallen into disrepair after 35 years of neglect. During that time, its cavernous cellars have become a haunt for drug take-out and prostitutes.

The renovation scheme was initiated by an Israeli firm headed by Mr. Shimon Peres, brother of Mr. Shimon Peres, the leader of the opposition Labour Party.

IN BRIEF

10 die in crush at rail station

Johannesburg.—Ten blacks were killed and about 40 injured, many seriously, in a stampede at Kwamashu station near Durban, when hundreds of people tried to board two rush-hour trains which had been delayed by a power cut and arrived simultaneously.

Another cooking oil found contaminated

Madrid.—A death from toxic pneumonia due to contaminated cooking oil was reported here, bringing to 179 the number of people who have died from the illness. Health authorities in Zaragoza in the north-east ordered an embargo on a new brand of oil called Oleoil found to be contaminated.

Springer sale barred

Bonn.—The Federal Cartel Office has barred the sale of a large part of the Axel Springer publishing concern to the Burda magazine empire, which would have bought 26 per cent of Springer at first and increased its share to 51 per cent by June 30, 1983, thus forming by far the biggest press interest in West Germany.

Swiss climber dies

Katmandu.—The leader of a Swiss mountaineering expedition that successfully climbed the 27,925ft. Lhotse in the Himalayas, died on his way back here. Joseph Fauchere, a 35-year-old mountaineering and ski-instructor, slipped on a rock and plunged about 100ft.

Mehta job for life

Jerusalem.—Zubin Mehta, the Indian-born conductor who tried to lift the Israeli ban on Wagner, has had his appointment as musical director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra extended for life.

38 held hostage

Graterford.—Flak-jacketed police stood vigil at Pennsylvania's largest prison, where a convicted murderer and three fellow inmates held 38 people hostage for a second day.

Manuscript record

New York.—An illuminated fifteenth century Italian manuscript, the Tacuinum Sanitatis, was auctioned for a record \$225,000 (about £125,000) to H. P. Kraus, a book dealer.

Chad asks Libyans to leave

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Oct. 30

The latest aboutface of President Goukouni Oueddei, of Chad, who last night called for the total withdrawal by December 31 of all Libyan troops stationed in his country, is regarded in Paris, where it took everyone by surprise, as creating a new and important state of affairs.

The head of the transitional Government in Ndjameña had given no inkling that he was about to take this step when he received M. Pierre Ricard, the French Charge d'Affaires, just after the departure for Tripoli of Major Jalloud, the Libyan Prime Minister.

Although the Chad situation has been fertile in imbrolios and unexpected developments in the last two weeks, the inclination in Paris is to take President Goukouni's statement at face value.

According to reports from Ndjameña, he had not been given approval by the Libyan Government, which had always said it would withdraw its troops if asked to do so by the authorities in Ndjameña, presumably confident they would never do so because it had President Goukouni under control.

It seems that the French Government's decision last week to provide logistical support to the transitional Government, and the impact of President Mitterrand's appeal from Cancun, Mexico, for the urgent dispatch of a pan-African peace-keeping force, which is now beginning to take shape, were key factors in President Goukouni's decision.

□ The move came after an alleged worsening of relations between Tripoli and President Goukouni because of his repeated refusal to merge his country with Libya (AFP reports).

REAGAN'S GIRL GOES FOR SENATE

Los Angeles, Oct. 30.—President Reagan's elder daughter, Maureen, will announce her candidacy on Monday for a Senate seat, aides said.

The President's daughter by his first wife, the actress Jane Fonda, would become the eighth Republican fighting for the Californian seat of Senator Sam Hayakawa. Mr. Reagan has said he would remain neutral if his daughter sought office.—Reuter.

Moscow 'gave promise' to free Korchnoi's family

Merano, Italy, Oct. 30.—The Soviet authorities have promised that the wife and son of Victor Korchnoi, the exiled Soviet world chess challenger, would be released from the Soviet Union, Mr. Fridrik Olafsson, president of the International Chess Federation, said here today.

He said the assurance that Korchnoi's wife Isabelle, and son Igor, would be able to join him in exile had been made to him by the Soviet authorities several months ago but no definite date had been given. It was therefore premature to say the promise had been broken, Mr. Olafsson said.

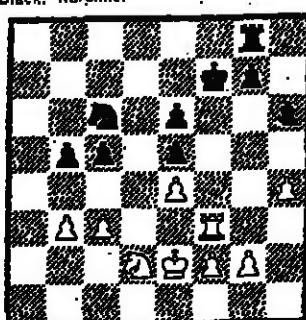
In Moscow Tass, denied that any promise had been made to Korchnoi, and condemned as a "monstrous lie" some Western press allegations that he was playing to lose the championship as part of an arrangement with Moscow to obtain exit visas for his family.

Soviet officials in Merano said that Korchnoi had never told his family could leave the Soviet Union before the championships.

Sources close to the Soviet delegation at the world chess championship here have said that the dossier on Korchnoi's family has been on the desk of the relevant authorities since October 1.

The eleventh championship game starts tomorrow afternoon with Karpov leading the match 4-1. He must win two more games to retain the title. The diagram shows the final position in yesterday's tenth game, drawn on the thirty-second move.—Reuter and AFP.

Black: Korchnoi



White: Karpov

What happens to your overseas contract if the money runs out?



In many overseas markets public and private capital expenditure is being cut back.

And where the axe falls on a project such as a highway or an airport, it could easily mean financial hardship for several companies along the line. Including some of our exporters.

This 'domino effect' may not yet have made your own exports any less profitable. But it is one more way in which exporting is becoming more of a risky business, where no-one can take payment for granted.

Today, the Export Credits Guarantee Department is paying out more and more on bad debts, not only from politically shaky countries, but from traditionally stable ones as well.

Recently a British engineering firm supplied construction equipment to a customer in the Middle East.

But the customer fell victim to circumstance since the orders for the plant he had received were suddenly cancelled. This meant that he in turn had to let down his own suppliers when payment fell due.

Fortunately, the British firm had covered itself with ECGD, and was reimbursed to the tune of 90% of its losses.

ECGD offers a full credit insurance service which covers you for non-payment on exports of goods or services, worldwide — no matter whether it's the customer or the country that fails.

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Because if the worst ever comes to the worst, why should you end up paying for your own exports?

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Have you had a brush with an urban fox?



The opening of the fox hunting season tomorrow will again see — and worse, hear — the shrill orchestrations of the anti-hunting lobby and its booming defence by the British Field Sports Society.

Perhaps, in this centenary year of the Masters of Foxhounds Association, a further voice should be heard in the hunting controversy: that of the naturalist who is committed to the preservation not only of the fox but the whole of the ecology and environment in which the fox lives.

The status of the fox in Britain today appears to many naturalists to be manipulated by propaganda — it is particularly unfortunate that the League Against Cruel Sports should, inadvertently, no doubt, mislead the public about the status of the fox in some of their announcements — so that the role of the fox should be so misunderstood today.

The league and other animal-love organizations might also project their minds forward to tomorrow's fox problem: that of the colonization of many British cities by the red fox.

The paradox of the foxhunting controversy is that an increasing number of naturalists, conservationists by definition, now believe that a legal ban on hunting would only accelerate the cumulative

damage to the British countryside. Like it or not, those who own the land but the fox. Remove the only reason for these people to maintain non-commercial coverts and small woodlands and the classic English landscape created by the in-filling of fields with hedges by the Enclosure Acts would be dramatically changed, irrevocably damaged, in a decade.

Equally, such a ban would have a disastrous effect on hill-farming where hunting, often on foot and frequently by invitation to destroy a known marauding fox, is an essential part not only of agricultural economics but the delicate balance of all wildlife in a frequently bleak and inhospitable world.

The alternatives, now being introduced in the control of urban foxes, of trapping, snaring and gassing are all indiscriminate methods of control which make no allowance for sex, age or fecundity. In the event of a ban on hunting there will probably need to be new legal rights for the control of foxes and it should not be forgotten that many urban fox lovers regularly feed their foxes, especially vixens with cubs, and thereby protect them.

There is a touching fable among the foxhunting lobbies that ultimate

protection of all wild species lies in legislation. I have repeatedly questioned this view. Specific legislation for the protection of individual species has been enacted in Britain since Henry VIII tried to protect spoonbills. Yet worldwide legislation has not, of itself, saved a single endangered species and, worse, seems unlikely to do so.

The second paradox about the red fox, the most common complex animal in Western Europe is that it has never before been so plentiful in Britain. Eighty years ago there was a thriving trade in "bagged foxes" being sold to hunters which lacked a quarry.

The success of foxes today, especially in its urban colonization, is due to its adaptability to live in almost any landscape. A fox will lie in wait all day under a small shrub on a housing estate and it has a truly omnivorous diet.

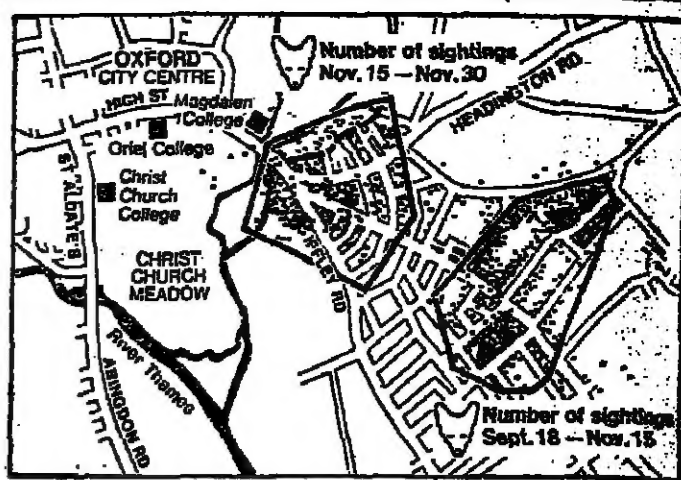
At the three territories I watch in a south-west London suburb — I am not particularly fond of the fox; it has imposed its presence upon me there is recurring evidence of its prime function, scavenging. The evidence includes bones from the family Sunday joint, crusts left in bread wrappers and especially the detritus left on streets from fast-food take-aways. Even a neighbour's recently dead pet greyhound was disinterred.

The fox is becoming the British scavenger pariah-dog. London, Birmingham, especially Walsall, and Manchester and a host of smaller towns are being colonized to the point of nuisance and it is an entirely recent phenomenon. Now the fox sighting map of central London shows more foxes in the metropolis than in the Quorn and Cotswold countries combined.

I am now prepared to predict that within 20 years the urban fox will be a proscribed animal, treated with the contempt now reserved for the larger rodents.

My areas of observation are still being patch-colonized; gaps are being filled; the population is increasing dramatically and the fox is no longer a discreet night wanderer. I see foxes on the main streets of Teddington at the brightest of high noons. The high fecundity of three to four cubs per litter and their dispersal — teenage cubs are evicted by their parents to make their own way in the world — intensifies the colonization process.

Why am I worried? The rural fox population is identified, understood and moderately well-controlled by hunting. My fear is that future legislation may be hysterically enacted to control urban foxes if their



The sightings of one fox in Oxford gardens

pariah-like activities become too anti-social.

The ultimate and so far unspoken fear is that of zoonotic disease — disease passed from animals to humans — of which the fox is not a prime vector except for pseudo-tuberculosis and salmonellosis and, of course, rabies, of which Britain praise God, has been free largely through constant vigilance for half a century.

There is no proven scientific evidence in British veterinary history that the fox has been a vector of rabies. All the major epidemics of the late nineteenth century were most probably caused by rabid dogs, not even foxhounds. But the proximity of fox, human and large population of loved and cared-for urban pets should — must be — a consideration in what I believe will be the inevitable

control of urban foxes. Dare I mention that the Isle of Wight during the 1950s was years free of myxomatosis until an inspired farmer had an idea...

I do not know the factors which fill the gaps in this odd equation except that until someone can find a reasonable alternative which ensures equal conservation legislation is not enough — and I have been pondering the problem for 20 years without reaching an adequate conclusion. Rural fox hunting must be allowed to continue. It is not the rural fox that worries me. It is his urbanized cousin who is not hunted.

James Preston

The author is a member of The Mammal Society. He does not hunt, shoot or fish.
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The wet Tories of Norway

Geoffrey Smith

For some time thinking Conservatives in Britain have had a nightmare — that their party might go the way of Scandinavian Conservatives: apparently one of nature's minorities, with a loyal following but out of the mainstream of politics. I well remember the extraordinary mixture of hope and hopelessness I encountered in their ranks on my first visit to Scandinavia to cover the Norwegian election of 1965.

They were confident that after many years of Labour rule a non-socialist coalition was about to be installed in office — and they were right. They were the largest of the non-socialist parties. They had the most able politicians and they were eager. So when the conversation turned to who would be prime minister in the coalition, I suggested that it might be one of their leaders. "Oh no," I was told, "that would be impossible". They bore a stigma and they knew it.

But now a purely Conservative government has just taken over in Oslo, the first time that the party has been in office by itself in Norway since 1927. In 1965 I met the party's young, self-confident, articulate general secretary, Mr Kaare Willoch. This week I talked again to Mr Willoch in Oslo, still self-confident and articulate, and at 53 still almost young, but now Prime Minister.

What can explain such a dramatic change of fortune? Is there such a strong right-wing tide flowing through the western world, with Mrs Thatcher ruling here and President Reagan in the White House, that not even Norway can resist it? Or may we be about to see a reversal of roles, with British Conservatives looking a trifle enviously at how their shrewd counterparts in Norway manage to govern with such little fuss?

Any comparison between this Norwegian government and either Mrs Thatcher or



Mr Willoch: a mistake in relying on growth?

Mr Reagan should be handled with care. Mr Willoch does not offer the rhetoric of the radical right but the language of gradualism. He and his colleagues are rather in the position of the Churchill Conservative government elected in 1951. It had to convince the British public, which still associated the party with the Depression between the wars, that it was safe to have the Conservatives in government. Now the Norwegian Conservatives have to reassure a country accustomed to Labour rule that it is safe to have them in office.

Yet it will not be enough for the Norwegian Government to provide safe administration. If it cannot bring about certain changes in society it will come to be regarded as failing in its

central purpose, a mere interlude in the long story of Labour rule. That was the fate of the 1965 coalition, which managed to change only the faces that took the decisions. Norway is a country that must have become — too comfortable for its own good. It floats on oil. It has a high standard of living, and a wide range of public services, benefits and subsidies. But it also suffers from high personal taxation, blunted incentives, heavy public expenditure and much regulation.

The Government wants to reduce these disabilities. But how can it do so without causing such pain as to remove the impression that this is a safe and acceptable administration in a country where the world consensus represents so much of a policy as a way of life? That is the dilemma of modern Conservatism in Norway, but not only in Norway.

The "commitments" with which Mr Willoch came to office will have a familiar ring to Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan. Personal taxes to be lowered, defence expenditure to be increased — by 4 per cent a year in real terms, 1 per cent more than the official target — and no addition to the budget deficit. How can all these objectives be met without cutting public spending other than defence to a painful degree?

Indeed, can they be met at all without breaking another commitment, to preserve the basic elements of the welfare state?

The Government has two answers to its dilemma. The first is a simple recognition that it cannot achieve all its goals in the short and the revised budget that will be presented to the Storting next Wednesday will provide for only a small reduction in personal taxes from the levels proposed by Labour and a slight increase in defence spending to demonstrate good

intentions. A start will be made in reducing food subsidies, but there will be no dramatic cuts.

So far so good. The Government does not look as if it will blunder into error simply for the sake of starting with a bang. For the longer term it puts its faith in growth. Its theory is that with economic expansion it should be possible to devote a proportion of the additional income each year to personal tax cuts and higher defence spending, without needing to savage other forms of public spending.

It is a sensible strategy if the growth materializes. It stands a better chance of doing so in Norway, with her oil, than in many other countries. But it is, nevertheless, the expression of a pious hope, rather than a policy, for any government in the western world these days to base its entire strategy on the assumption of growth.

What if it does not materialize? Already one notices some hedging of bets among other ministers. They "still hope that we can stick to our promise" on defence spending, rather than "absolute conviction". Perhaps as time goes on there will be a more general lowering of sights. There will be another option if growth does not offer a painless solution. That is the governing body of St Paul's, the Cathedral in London, which is administered by a Chapter consisting of a dean and four canons — he will concentrate on leading the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa. When he founded the fund he earned the fury of the South African government far beyond its usual resentment of anti-apartheid clergymen in Britain.

They are a distinguished line — the list includes such formidable names as Michael Scott, Trevor Rundleston and Ambrose Reeves — but Collins has become the most hated of them all among supporters of the South African government, not only for preaching against apartheid from the pulpit of St

Few public figures achieve a distinction of being called on the one hand, a saint, and a bastard on the other. Canon John Collins is one.

This turbulent priest, whose benign smile masks a relish for rough political infighting, has on occasion earned the plaudits and the wrath of entire governments in various parts of the world. When he retires today after 33 years as Canon of St Paul's he completes one dimension of career that continues to provoke extremes of approbation and condemnation.

Once described by Winston Churchill as "either a fool or a communist" and once seized by the lapels and physically shaken by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Geoffrey Fisher (he later apologized), Canon Collins first became controversial as a founder of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He was its first chairman in 1958 and Michael Foot, Bertrand Russell, Kingsley Martin and J. B. Priestley led the Aldermaston marches and addressed rallies of up to 100,000 in Trafalgar Square. He soon became a hero to the doves and an ogre to the hawks.

Still a supporter of CND, he has long yielded his leading role in the movement to younger campaigners. With his retirement at the age of 75 from the governing body of St Paul's, the Cathedral in London, he will concentrate on leading the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa. When he founded the fund he earned the fury of the South African government far beyond its usual resentment of anti-apartheid clergymen in Britain.

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Hero to doves, ogre to hawks

by Donald Woods



Canon Collins: never a dull moment

Paul's but for his long leadership of "Defence and Aid" and its practical programme to fund the legal costs of South Africans charged under the apartheid laws.

Pretoria could dismiss the sermons as rhetoric, but it could not dismiss the fact that black dissidents started being represented in court by able lawyers. This meant that the State, formerly relying on the complexity of the racial laws for quick convictions, had to start doing its homework before prosecution.

This led to greater publicity for such trials at a time when South African courts still functioned through fairly orthodox legal procedures in spite of the unorthodoxy of the new apartheid statutes, and the nature of these laws was therefore revealed to the world.

Pretoria's propagandists put about the thought, echoed often by the Canon's detractors in Britain, that the Canon had made himself a captive of the far left to raise funds from communist countries for law cases against the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa.

London has been the headquarters of the fund from the beginning, although it was only in recent years that Britain became one of the donor governments. The fund grew out of the Christian Action movement started in 1946 by the nucleus of an Anglican Fellowship in which Collins had been active, and its first major fund raising drive was for legal defence fees in the marathon "treason trial" of Nelson Mandela and other dissidents which began in 1956 and dragged on for five years until the last of the 156 accused were acquitted.

It was the controversy occasioned by his involvement in anti-apartheid politics as much as by his role in CND that provoked Dr Fisher to

try with all the ecclesiastical influence of Lambeth Palace to bring the rebellious canon to heel, dismissing the Collins contention that Christianity is meaningless if isolated from the general condition, including the political condition, of humanity.

John Collins was not always a rebel with a radical tinge. Born into a high Tory family, he travelled the traditional public school route to Cambridge, where he distinguished himself academically and became chaplain of his college after his ordination. He firmly believed in the virtues of the Establishment as the highest framework within which the well-being of Britain could be assured.

It was during the 1930s that he started repudiating elements of Tory dogma and by 1938, when he moved to Oxford, to become Dean of

Oriel, he began to perceive himself as a political maverick. At the time of Munich he was so impatient of Chamberlain's compromises and so outspoken in supporting the Churchill position that his colleagues in the common room called him "Fire-eating John". Later, when Collins was in the RAF and organized lectures by Allied ambassadors including the Soviet ambassador, on the war effort, Churchill made his remark implying foolishness or communist leanings.

During his days at Oxford, Collins had ministered to students with problems, and when 19-year-old Diana Elliot needed counselling over a boy friend, Collins, then 33, took over the boy's role himself, with a Brahms symphony as background music and a Wolseley car as bait.

She too came from a staunchly Conservative family, and they warned her against marrying a clergyman. "You'll have such a dull life, dear," they said. "You'll be bored to death." "Bored?" says Diana Collins today. "Little did they know!"

She is a full partner in his campaigns against apartheid, nuclear weapons and whatever else arouses their joint ire. They have four children — a doctor, a barrister, a dancer, and a musician — and were reluctant to leave their Wren home in Amen Court, with all its 33 years of family memories, which went with being Canon of St Paul's.

Though he ceases at mid-night to be Canon of St Paul's he will no doubt continue to be called Canon Collins and to look the part. He has long known how to do latter-day eras the mischief from his face and assume his surprised role to greet the Queen Mother as the door of the great cathedral.

The author was formerly editor of the Daily Dispatch in East London, South Africa, and fled to Britain in 1978.
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Player and gentleman with The Times



by Louis Heren

—seen here as a war correspondent in the Israel-Arab war 1948

despite those coal fires and sacred cows, the gentlemen of the press had great and painful changes inevitable for the paper and the country. They showed a greater presence than editors of other papers, and for a while we were known as the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. They also knew that the paper's view of the world had to be broadened, which may have persuaded them to send me abroad after less than a year as a reporter.

They took a chance. Ralph Deskin, the Foreign News Editor, said that it took only a few minutes to appoint a foreign correspondent, and often 20 years to get rid of him. I had the makings of a good reporter, but had little, perhaps too little, respect for established authority. Certainly I never allowed it to get between me and the news. It must have pained some of them, but they fully supported me when the complaints came in from Delhi, MacArthur's Korean war headquarters, the British colonial administration in Malaya and the West German Government in Bonn.

Unlike some colleagues on other papers, I did not have to look over my shoulder. The support was also there, even when I was accused of being a communist. William Casey, who succeeded Robert Barrington-Ward as editor in 1948, knew that I had some French, Basque, blood and gently brushed aside ambassadorial complaints by telling them that "Basques" were against all governments.

The Times had of course always trusted its correspondents, except for that dreadful lapse in the thirties when the reports of the Berlin correspondent were ignored, but Tyerman and others knew that I accepted the disciplines of the paper.

More than that, they must have known that I had been captivated, even seduced, by The Times. Not because it was the Top of the Paper, as slogan we all disliked, but because of those disciplines, its history and past giants such as Barnes, Delane and Russell, especially William Howard Russell, the first and greatest foreign war correspondent.

The pay was poor, but no young foreign correspondent worth his salt could not but try to follow in that great Anglo-Irishman's footsteps. At the beginning of the American Civil War his report of the first battle of Bull Run was a model of vivid reporting. He took on the established authority whenever necessary, and his coverage of the Crimean War brought down the Aberdeen ministry and persuaded Nurse Nightingale to go out to take care of the wounded.

The paper made further progress under the editorship of Sir William Haley. He and Tyerman dragged it into the second half of the twentieth century and pointed it in the right direction. This could have been our golden age, but quick as we were to adjust to the unknown future the company did not have sufficient funds to build on what they had achieved.

The crunch came in the mid-fifties when the board decided to rebuild old Printing House Square. Admittedly it was a slum, apart from those book-lined rooms, but Haley argued that available resources should be devoted to improving the paper by increasing the number of pages — and hiring more writers. Journalists, rightly said, would work anywhere and under any conditions, as long as they

were helping to produce a good paper.

He was over-ruled, and the money was spent on building a new office block. News was put on the front page and the editorial content broadened and deepened, but without reserves the paper was vulnerable and was eventually sold to the Thomson Organization. Arguably it was a terrible mistake. The Lord Thomson was a very considerable man, but within a few years after his death the publication of The Times, The Sunday Times and The Spectator was suspended for nearly a year because of an indecisive battle with the production unions.

The company was sold again, to Rupert Murdoch, an experienced newspaper proprietor, who appointed Harold Evans as editor. The future is still uncertain, but the paper has been greatly improved, and if there is any fairness in this world it should become the greatest newspaper in the world and not just one of the greatest.

I would have liked to have helped, but there comes a time when one generation is expected to give way to another. At least I have had a point of view, and the younger men and women whom I was in a position to help, as Tyerman and other members of an earlier generation, helped me, and the newcomers I have met are fully capable of improving the paper.

Journalists can be compared to old movies. It is not true that they don't make them like that any more. The new generation are just as good as the old, perhaps better. With luck, and they and The Times surely deserve it after the recent dreadful years, they will create a golden age by the time the 200th anniversary in 1983 is celebrated.



Kids don't stop dying when they stop being news'

'When the public sees pictures of starving children,' says Angela Rippon, 'they give very generously. But when that country no longer makes the headlines there are still children who are starving.'

She saw how our Bangladeshi Children's Nutrition Unit could turn "starving, six-month-old bodies" into chubby children in just six weeks. 'We were enormously impressed,' she said.

Save the Children works all over the world. You'll learn a lot more about our work (and read Angela Rippon's story of her journey) in our quarterly magazine, THE WORLD'S CHILDREN.

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THE FUTILITY OF TERROR

Terrorism breeds fallacies as much as it degrades its perpetrators and offends human life and dignity. It is not uncommon among some professing liberals to assume that there must somewhere be a justifiable grievance behind violent acts of terror and a sneaking feeling that violence somehow will triumph in the end. The Times which has this week been carrying a special series of articles on terrorism, regards these views as not merely woolly, but wrong and corrupting. It is therapeutic for the case for terror to be faced and seen for what it is.

Political crimes of violence are subject to a law of diminishing returns. The IRA seems to have learned this over the suicidal hunger strikes, but it has not apparently drawn parallel conclusions about indiscriminate bombing. The first bomb, like the first martyr's death, has some kind of impact on Government and public opinion. Subsequent acts do not pile up a pervasive pressure, however — quite the contrary. On the mainland, as in Ulster itself, political terrorism so reckless of innocent life causes increased revulsion. It does not weaken resolve. It strengthens it. Opinion polls are only one source of evidence for this, though they are impressive.

This is bound to be the case where terrorist groups lack any significant degree of popular support—even passive support—and where the authority they face is sustained by its public beliefs firmly in its own objectives. For these reasons, the history of urban terrorism in the Western world has been very largely a history of futility. The Baader-Meinhof Gang in West Germany found no echo whatever among the people on whose behalf they claimed to be engaging in acts of violence against the state. The state, for its part, responded to Baader-Meinhof with the determination which any soundly-based democratic system is entitled to use in self-defence.

Conversely, of course, political violence has tended to be effective in circumstances where the authority under attack is weak, and where the population concerned has suffered from the kind of injustice upon which extremists can feed—where the terrorists, in Mao's words, swim in a friendly sea. The use of terrorism in the post-war world by national liberation movements proved effective for these reasons. During the period of de-colonization, small nationalist groups prepared to use violent means were locked in struggle with metropolitan powers which, not having their roots in the colony — lacked the will to

resist, despite the resources at their disposal. In some cases, indeed, the metropolitan power came to sympathise with the cause of rebellion, namely self-determination for a population under alien rule.

The IRA would argue that it finds itself in just such a colonial situation, and that its use of violence will triumph. But the fatal flaw in this argument is that the IRA does not in fact represent the aspirations of a majority struggling to be free. On the contrary, it seeks to impose a change of sovereignty on a large and stable majority that emphatically rejects it. The "metropolitan" power — Britain — is not denying the right of self-determination to a colony, it is vindicating the right of self-determination of a province. Even if — and this is not conceded — the unit for self-determination is taken to be Ireland as a whole, the IRA still lacks any valid claim to represent that voice.

This is consideration of this kind which have led the United Nations to take the view that acts of terror which are directed against a legitimate government and do not reflect a real grievance, are reprehensible, while those undertaken in the course of a national liberation struggle are not. It is difficult to sustain such precise distinctions. Clearly the planting of bombs by the IRA in the centre of London or Belfast, with attendant risks to innocent life, falls into the first category. But is it right to suppose, as the UN inclines to do, that terrorism undertaken by the Palestine Liberation Organization or the South West Africa Peoples Organization is different in kind? Swapo, it is true, claims to be fighting on behalf of an indigenous population in South West Africa (Namibia). It has support. But Pretoria would, with justice, contest Swapo's claim to represent all Namibians, something which can only be tested in elections.

The case of the PLO is more complex. It undoubtedly represents a large proportion of Palestinian opinion on the West Bank and in the diaspora, but it also claims sovereignty over a territory which is already occupied by a legal and internationally recognized state, namely Israel. The PLO has itself confused matters by refusing — so far — to make clear whether it seeks self-determination for the Palestinians in the whole of former Palestine, or only in part of it. If the latter, then PLO terrorism directed against Israeli occupation of the West Bank — which is illegal — may be said to have some legitimacy as an act of war, at least in UN terms. In practice, however, PLO terrorism has proved just as counter-productive as IRA

terrorism, since it has made Israeli apprehensive about the very idea of a Palestinian state.

Moreover, even if Swapo or PLO terrorism is held to be a justified act of war, rather than an unjustified attack on a civilian population, there can be little agreement about which targets are "legitimate". The killing of unarmed civilians is at all times wrong, and cowardly. Nothing can condone attacks on school buses or airports, whatever any United Nations General Assembly may say, however exemplary the motive might appear to be. But under what circumstances is the ambushing of a military convoy or the assassination of a government official to be condoned; and who is to decide whether the grievance thus expressed is real or imagined?

The most worrying aspect of such obstacles to definition, is that they have paralysed all efforts by international bodies to get to grips with terrorist acts. To some extent the Council of Europe's 1977 Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism is an honourable exception. None the less, several European countries, including Ireland, have dissented from its reference to "offences inspired by political motives".

It is possible to see why a Hungarian in 1936, or an Afghan in 1981, might approve this equivocation, but is hard to see how democratic states can justify any cant which inhibits cooperation against so-called "transnational terrorism". If the IRA, the Japanese Red Army, and other urban terrorist groups can pool their resources under the bloody patronage of Libya, it will be pathetic if democratic governments do not concert their resistance effectively.

But important though policing is inside and across borders, it is a mistake to believe that this is all that is necessary. Three other responses are required. There must be public vigilance against the bomber, but against the cynical capitalist as well. And there must be support and encouragement for politics in the best sense, for the painstaking search for a just and lasting settlement, for the peaceful resolution of grievances and the compromise of differences. This is what the Western powers have been trying to do with Namibia and for the Palestinians; and it should be noted that the PLO, now forswearing terrorism at least formally, has advanced its cause more rapidly than in earlier years. And let it be noted well that terrorism can never put a grievance right. Politics has to do that. Terrorism may win attention but it often destroys the cause it claims to serve.

POLITICS FAILS TO STOP PLAY

A sigh of relief will escape lovers of cricket in many countries at the announcement that England's tour of India will take place after all. Had it been prevented much more would have been lost than the prospect of an interesting winter's cricket. The whole pattern of Test cricket as we have come to know it would have been in jeopardy.

The tour would not have been called off because England insisted on maintaining cricket contacts with South Africa. The two countries have not played each other since the MCC tour of 1968-69 was cancelled because of the D'Oliveira affair. England very properly refused to allow the government of another country to determine who should be permitted to be a member of the touring party. Since then the English cricket authorities have gone further. Not only do they play no Test cricket against South Africa, but they warn cricketers eligible to play for

England not to take part in any international or representative matches in that country. But to do more than that would have been an intolerable infringement of individual rights. If a cricketer wishes to coach or to play as an individual in South Africa, or in any other country, that is up to him. For England to have been blackmailed into dropping, or refraining from choosing, any player who had done so would have been to surrender the very principle that was upheld in the D'Oliveira affair.

There would have been impossible. So if the Indian Government had insisted, the effect would have been to rupture cricketing relations between India and England. Perhaps India could still have toured England. But there would have been a question mark even over that, and it would have been a step further from there to a deplorable division between the white cricketing nations and the others.

That has been avoided, and avoided on honourable terms. It has been fashionable for many years in this country to assume that cricket administrators are blessed with no gift beyond the recollection of how they used to play. Their conduct in this instance has belied that criticism. The cricketing authorities in India have consistently made clear their wish that the tour should proceed: they have not been the ones making difficulties. The authorities in England have been equally keen that the tour should go ahead, but not at any price. They have now secured the conclusion for which they have been striving without any sacrifice of principle. It must now be hoped that the episode can be consigned to history and that a memorable tour will confirm the cricketing bonds between the two countries. At least this sorry affair has shown how much they are valued on both sides.

BRENT BLAZES THE TRAIL

Local government is overweight and a burden on our backs, but let it not be said that it altogether lacks compassion. Take Brent as a warning, not to say heating, example. The London borough of Brent has enclosed with its demands for the payment of supplementary rates (the notorious Livingstone levy) advertising matter from a confidential loans company — 32.5 per cent per annum, and with general interest rates at Reagan levels what could be fairer than that?

None of our great public utilities; gas, water, electricity, the new yellow telephone company, has thought of that, much as they massage their customer relations. Yet a bridging loan to carry over to the next quarter's statement is just what more and more of their customers require. Brent's

example is particularly commendable. It is a Labour controlled council but that has not prevented it from making available to its ratepayers the services of a private money-lender. It takes a bit of time for a council to set up a department of its own for the making of confidential loans on a personalized basis: extra staff of the right calibre must be recruited, premises found, and the whole operation cleared with Nalogo. But here a council has identified an emerging need, recognized its urgency, and cut through party dogma to achieve the interim arrangements described above. This is local improvisation at its best.

Yet just as Mrs Thatcher is shy of taking credit for the remorselessly compassionate

increase in public expenditure which has occurred, and is continuing under her government, so it is with Brent. A spokesman is reported as saying that the scheme is not ideal. "We would have sent something like literature for *Encyclopaedia Britannica* if we could. But we had no option." This is hard to follow. An *Encyclopaedia* is a ready help in time of trouble, but if you are stuck for the sum you are required to pay for other people's bus and tube journeys there is not much the *Britannica* can do for you beyond filling you in on the meaning of the expression "distress warrant". A confidential loan is more to the point. If the councillors are too modest to draw attention to themselves, others must do so. Well done Brent.

New plans for Namibia

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative). Sir, Dr Crocker's proposals (report and leading article, October 29) for a new independence seem on paper at least, to provide a reasonable compromise between the views of the opposing sides. The difficulty, as you rightly say, lies in how far the protection offered by entrenched clauses in any constitution can be made effective. Here much will turn on the wider environment in which Namibian independence might take place.

If a Swapo (South-West African People's Organization) Government were to take office in Windhoek, the neighbouring Angola remained a one-party Marxist state under Soviet/Cuban control, the risks to South Africa and to other Western interests could be unacceptably high. There would be little to stop such a government setting up a one-party state and establishing African Nationalist Congress guerrilla bases on its territory with Soviet/Cuban support.

If, on the other hand, the Soviet/Cuban presence were withdrawn from Angola and the non-Marxist parties — Dr Savimbi's Unita and Mr Holden Roberto's FwL — were included in the Angolan political process, hope-fully by the same sort of electoral arrangements as are proposed for Namibia, the risks would be very greatly reduced.

The contact group of five must of course concentrate on the specifically Namibian proposals which they are instructed to negotiate. But if their work is to be brought to full fruition it will be necessary for the Western Powers to ensure that South African withdrawal from Namibia is matched by a Soviet/Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

By the same token the West will need assurances that similar safeguards to those proposed for the minority groups in Namibia are also made available to the opposing parties in Angola. To insist, however, on "facilitated" "colonialism" remains entrenched in Angola would be a major and very dangerous defeat for the free world.

Yours faithfully, JULIAN AMERY, House of Commons, October 29.

Farm tenancies

From Mr J. E. Hooson. Sir, In rejecting the NFU/CIA (Country Landowners' Association) package for landlord-tenant reform (report, October 24) the Labour subcommittee have not only killed hopes of a greater number of tenancies being available in the future but have also compromised the existing criterion for existing tenants. It was in order to move away from the "open-market value" criterion, with its scarcity and key money element, to one which took account of the earning capacity of the land that the NFU, representing tenant farmers, agreed to a new formula of life-time tenancies for new letting.

Certainly it creates two classes of tenants, with the possibility of the successors under the 1976 Act and those who 'knowingly' accept farms that their successors may well have to surrender on their deaths.

The alternative, which presents declining acres of let land, is far fewer farms being let at all. It is the view of both sides of the industry that a growing number with life security is infinitely better than steadily reducing numbers of "100 year tenants", especially since all tenants, new and existing, would enjoy better rent arbitration.

It is hoped that these points are reconsidered when the executive deliberates next month. Whilst all this talk takes place the let sector dwindles and rent arbitrations continue on the present basis. Even though the latter has been a success for the Queen's Speech of Nov. 1982, let us hope that dogma, prejudice or ideology do not prevent a sensible solution to a problem which is as much a social structure in the countryside as economics.

If we fail, future generations will justifiably say we all fiddled whilst Rome burnt. Yours sincerely, JOHN E. HOOSON, chairman, Public Affairs Committee of England and Wales, National Farmers' Union, Knightsbridge, SW1, October 24.

Christians and the bomb

From the Reverend E. H. Chitty. Sir, Ronald Butt "Arms questions the CND must answer" (October 29) speaks of a "cruelly sentimentalised Christianity", and it is, if I believe, "man must needs love the higher when he sees it". Sometimes he crucifies it.

I was a pacifist and conscientious objector in the last war and served in Bomb Disposal and the RAMC. In France my Red Cross armband did not save me from a burst from a machine-gun, nor did I expect it to. Despite many studies of animal behaviour passive resistance or surrender is not necessarily "disarming". It can provoke violent reactions in human beings. For me Christian pacifism is a spiritual vocation and follows its own paradoxical logic. Those who feel called this way can only respond in trust and let God make what he will of their obedience. It was never a political policy, though in CND "true pacifists" (Mr Butt's phrase) will march with unexpected companions.

Yours sincerely, ERNEST CHITTY, Flat 2, 8 Adamson Road, Hampstead, NW3, October 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protecting the Antarctic wilderness

From Mr James Dawson

Sir, The experience of oil consortiums endeavouring to extract oil and natural gas from the icy regions of the North Slope of Alaska are germane to the debate concerning the Antarctic wilderness. Moving icebergs are the potent enemy of seabed pipelines carrying the oil to depots for tanker collection.

These difficulties apply equally to oilfields off the Labrador/Newfoundland coastal areas, of great and natural beauty unchanged since Viking times. "Iceberg alley" from the calving of Greenland bergs renders surface oilrigs and seabed pipelines so hazardous as to be almost commercially impossible. Costs in this area are 70 per cent higher than in the North Sea.

Commercial exploitation of the Antarctic, in real terms, is impractical while present and imagined engineering techniques in ice-prone areas apply. Nuclear submarine tankers to carry oil and natural gas from the North Slope and other northern areas of Alaska and Canada have recently been mooted for under-ice navigation.

This is a repeat of a public relations exercise, in 1968, by the General Dynamics Corporation for under-ice oil tanker submarines. It did not advance from the drawing board, being fraught with navigational difficulties among others.

Whilst oil and natural gas reserves are finite, as any mining operation, it will be many years before ice problems in oil extraction, psychological as well as physical, become a practical commercial reality. Shale oils may now be emerging as commercially interesting, after many years of rejection.

The therapeutic affect of the still silent areas of the world, is

known to few people. Glacier Bay National Park, in Alaska, framed by the Fairweather range of mountains, dusted with fresh snow in the rare sunshine is a sight that imprints itself on the mind.

Tourism in Alaska, on the doorstep of America's west coast, is booming. The Alaskan and American governments have rationed the number and frequency of cruise ships to this and other beautiful national parks in the interests of the breeding of the threatened humpback whale; at present the permitted figure of cruise ships is 89.

The US National Park Service's officers are zealous and knowledgeable in defending the sanctity of Glacier Bay with its five glaciers, and help both scientists and tourists to appreciate the complexity of the life chains in their parish.

The same care could, and should, be exercised in Antarctica. The national park principle could be enlarged to international parks over large areas, where penguins and sea birds would be protected, as they are in areas of Alaska. A wilderness need not be confined to arctic lands, but must extend to the tropics, the deserts, the wetlands, and the Welsh to... whoever they took it from.

These examples are fantasies but others are not. Alsace-Lorraine was "looted" by Louis XIV and has been part cause of three wars; should it cause a fourth? Ulster (according to the IRA) was "looted" by the Protestant settlers; and Palestine either by the Jews from the Arabs or by the Arabs from the Jews.

If time could confer good tide then no man is secure in what he owns, and war is endemic. In these conditions, the Benin bronzes, the Elgin Marbles, and the Ethiopian documents will probably be destroyed.

Yours sincerely, M. E. COOKE, 5 Menai View Terrace, Holyhead Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, October 28.

Staying aloft

From Mr S. Higashi

Sir, I am not concerned with Mr Atkinson's assessment of the current fortunes of British shipbuilders in his letter of October 7, but I must reply to his criticisms of the Japanese shipbuilding industry.

Japan has never implemented measures with the intention of monopolising the world shipbuilding market. The Japanese share of world shipbuilding increased to the extent it did in the early 1960s because the industry made great efforts to increase productivity and to meet the needs of shipowners with more modern facilities. Shipowners appreciated this improvement and placed many orders with Japanese shipbuilders.

True, Japan provided shipbuilding facilities for big tankers in the early 1970s, but then so did European countries, and nobody could have foreseen the 1973 oil crisis. Mr Atkinson may need reminding that, following this crisis, Japan was the first shipbuilding country to cut back capacity by 35 per cent in fact. It was Mr Atkinson's allegation that "Japan started the subsidy race in 1962 by the introduction of cheap export credit" I would only say that since 1963 Japan has

taken an active part in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) and was amongst the OECD countries who established the 1969 understanding on ship export credits, an understanding which, to my knowledge, all EC members, including Japan, have since applied.

Mr Atkinson has misunderstood the situation in stating that Japanese shipbuilding is preparing for "a new round of expansionism, about 6500 (sterling) in fact". This figure is an approximation of one put forward as a likely investment figure by the Japanese shipbuilding press.

Furthermore, although Japanese shipbuilding companies intend to allocate a very low percentage of this investment to renovating outdated shipbuilding facilities, the greater part will be allocated to their other activities which are quite separate from shipbuilding. Indeed they are prohibited by law from expanding shipbuilding facilities without government permission. To quote it in connection with shipbuilding alone is therefore gross exaggeration.

Yours faithfully, S. HIGASHI, Director General, Japan Ship Centre (Jetro), 24 Easchep, EC3, October 26.

Sir Roger Hollis

From Mr Chapman Pincher

Sir, Your letter from Sir Martin Furnival Jones and Mr C. A. G. Simkins (October 21) provides the first official confirmation of the claim in my book, *They Trade in Treachery*, that Sir Roger Hollis, who preceded Sir Martin as Director General of MI5, was interrogated on suspicion of being a spy. The Prime Minister in her statement to Parliament admitted only that Sir Roger had been investigated. MI5's response to suspicion of espionage is divided into three stages. The suspect is first subjected to investigation carried out, as far as possible, without his knowledge. If the findings appear to support the suspicion he is then interviewed. This takes the form of discussions usually carried out in a friendly manner. Interviews usually lead to further investigation. If these prove positive the suspect is then subjected to interrogation, a more direct and often hostile form of examination intended to induce admissions and, hopefully, confession.

The confirmation that Sir Roger

was recalled from retirement, as he was in 1970, to be subjected to interrogation, which I know to have been quite routine, makes nonsense of suggestions that the event was merely routine. Most of those who carried out the inquiry over the previous six years believed the internal intelligence evidence to be so weighty that Sir Roger might confess, which he did not.

When Sir Martin alleges that there was "not a shred of evidence" that Sir Roger had been disloyal he can only mean legal evidence of such a nature that it could have been brought into a British court of law. There was no legal evidence against Fuchs or Blake until they confessed during interrogation. It was lack of legal evidence which induced Mr Harold Macmillan to clear Philby in Parliament in 1955.

Yours faithfully, CHAPMAN PINCHER, Church House, 16 Church Street, Kintbury, Newbury, Berkshire, October 21.

Architecture Studies

From Mr Owen Luder

Sir, On July 22, you published a letter from me about the University Grants Committee's guidance on cuts in the university sector of higher education in which I expressed the hope that any rationalization should be in the national interest be truly rational and national. I believed that architectural education would stand the test better than many disciplines.

Now we have a tragic example of the crazy situation into which we are getting ourselves. A proposal is to come before the Senate of the University of Bristol that the School of Architecture be closed.

The UGC itself went only so far as to suggest that there should be discussions about cooperation between the schools in Bath and Bristol. I understand it was made clear that any cuts should not be so large as to threaten their viability.

It cannot be in the interests of the country, of higher education or of professional education to allow arbitrary closure of valuable disciplines. The RIBA can see no justification for random and expedient attacks upon the pattern of architectural education and the destruction of a school whose reputation stands high.

The secretary of State and the Chairman of the UGC should

make it clear that they did not intend there to be haphazard closures of this kind.

Yours faithfully, OWEN LUDER, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, W1, October 29.

False fire

From Mr Paul Ferris

Sir, thanks to BBC 1's "Fighter Pilot" (October 28) we know what some of those low-flying military aircraft that swarm over Welsh hill country are up to. A Buccaneer pilot was seen being briefed for (and then making) a simulated rocket attack on Welsh nationalists who were messing about with transmitters. What fun.

It might be a shade more tactful, though, for the RAF to stick to battles between Red Force and Blue Force. Most of the Welsh, myself included, are not nationalists in any political sense of the word. But that makes such a scenario for British planes in friendly skies all the more inept. Why give hostages to extremists?

Yours faithfully, PAUL FERRIS, 26 Roehampton Court, Queens Road, SW13, October 29.

Expatriate art treasures

From Mr Maurice E Cooke

Sir, The principle in the controversy whether Benin bronzes, the Elgin Marbles and certain Ethiopian documents should be returned to the country from which they were "looted" (letters, October 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28) is being lost in details. Details are important — notably the fact that the Elgin Marbles were bought, not "looted" — but the principle is more so. For the principle is both morally bad and politically disastrous.

It is morally bad because it rates nationalism above art, science and scholarship. Nothing could be less desirable than that all British art should remain in Britain, all Mexican in Mexico and all Ancient Greek in modern Greece and Turkey. Art, science and scholarship are for man, not nations.

The principle is politically disastrous because it could not be confined to art but must extend to territory. So the Americans must hand back their homeland to the Indians from whom they "looted" it; and the Anglosaxons: England to the Welsh; and the Welsh to... whoever they took it from.

These examples are fantasies but others are not. Alsace-Lorraine was "looted" by Louis XIV and has been part cause of three wars; should it cause a fourth? Ulster (according to the IRA) was "looted" by the Protestant settlers; and Palestine either by the Jews from the Arabs or by the Arabs from the Jews.

If time could confer good tide then no man is secure in what he owns, and war is endemic. In these conditions, the Benin bronzes, the Elgin Marbles, and the Ethiopian documents will probably be destroyed.

Yours sincerely, M. E. COOKE, 5 Menai View Terrace, Holyhead Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, October 28.

Concern over Soviet Jew

From Lieutenant-Colonel P. Davis, RM (Retd)

Sir, May I report the latest travesty of justice which recently occurred in Kishinev, USSR? On May 30, 1981, Mr Vladimir Tsukerman was arrested outside the synagogue after attempting to lead a peaceful procession with some 40 men, women and children, to the Ministry of the Interior to protest against their repeated refusals to allow them to join their families in Israel.

Mr Tsukerman's wife and young child have lived in Israel for the past three years. After four months in prison Mr Tsukerman was tried on the charge of "causing a public disturbance", found guilty and sent to a labour camp for three years. There is no possibility of an appeal as the trial took place in the Moldavian Supreme Court.

Mr Tsukerman served in the Soviet Navy until 1975, hence my interest in his case. I, together with other retired Royal Naval and Royal Marines officers, wrote to the Soviet Ambassador on August 3 last to express our concern, but to date we have not had the courtesy of a reply.

Yours faithfully, PETER DAVIS, 29 Tuckton Road, Bournemouth, October 19.

Change of party

From Mr Bernard Denner

Sir, Although it is more than a little naive in me to be so, I am disturbed by the implications in Lord Valizey's letter on Thursday (October 29) that his friends tell him that, had he delayed leaving the party which enabled him, "I might by now have found myself a cushy number on the SDP bandwagon".

He left that party at the moment of a general election, and with what can only be described as the minimum of reticence. It would seem that in thus commiserating with him his friends are displaying a remarkably consistent view of his motivation.

Yours &c, BERNARD DENNER, 85 Knatchbull Road, SE5.

Taken in vain

From the Reverend W. T. Armstrong

Sir, The Dean of Hereford (October 27) must steel himself against even greater degradation of the queen of the sciences.

Some weeks ago, on BBC Television's *Ask the Family*, the usually literate Mr Robert Robinson was heard to say that, before the programme started, the staff had had a theological argument on whether the correct expression was "a dog's dinner" or "a dog's breakfast".

Yours faithfully, W. T. ARMSTRONG, Lower Beeding Vicarage, Horsham, West Sussex.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

October 30: The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Paddington Station in the Royal Train this morning upon the conclusion of their tour of the Principality.

The Hon Edward Ades, Major John Winter, Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Mr John Haslam were in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President of the Mary Rose Trust received Sir Eric Drake at Buckingham Palace.

This evening The Prince of Wales, International President, United World Colleges, gave a Reception at Buckingham Palace for students of Atlantic College.

His Royal Highness later attended a performance of *Madama Butterfly* in aid of the Mountbatten Memorial Trust at the Wembley Conference Centre.

Mr Francis Cornish was in attendance.

The Princess Anne Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the *Tesco Dinner* at Grosvenor House, London, W1.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the departure of The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, for Antigua and Barbuda, and bade farewell to Her Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE

October 30: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon left Heathrow Airport, London, this morning on a visit to the Commonwealth of Antigua and Barbuda.

Her Royal Highness will also visit St Vincent.

Her Royal Highness was received at the Airport by His Excellency Dr Claudius Thomas (High Commissioner for the Caribbean), Sir David Dodson (Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), Sir John King (Chairman of British Airways) and Mr John Wright (Deputy Director, British Airports).

The Lady Anne Tennant and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

A memorial service for Lady Brierley will be held at St James's, Piccadilly, on Tuesday, November 10, at 11.30.

and Mrs R. J. Feilden, of Cockthorpe Home Farm, Ducklington, Witney, Oxfordshire.

Mr M. J. H. Macey and Miss J. C. Pattenison

The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Lieutenant-General Sir George and Lady Gordon, Master of Gordon Castle, Gochobers, Morayshire, and Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late General Sir William Spring, of Launceston, Cornwall, and Mrs V. C. Spring, of Launceston, Cornwall.

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The engagement is announced between Nigel, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. M. Jamieson, of Fairholme, Kent, and Laura, youngest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs R. Gooling, of Brighthelm, Dulverton, Somerset.

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Mr A. A. Leach and Miss R. C. West

The marriage took place at the Villa Reale, Milan, on Friday, October 30, between Mr Albert Lloyd and Miss Rosemary West.

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Mr A. J. Senior and Miss C. J. Salkeld

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs A. J. Senior, of Moorwood's Hall Farm, Moorwood's Lane, Sheffield, and Jane, daughter of Mrs Rachel Salkeld, of Keston Lodge, Milborne Port, Dorset, and the late Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. Salkeld.

Mr A. A. Leach and Miss R. C. West

The marriage took place at the Villa Reale, Milan, on Friday, October 30, between Mr Albert Lloyd and Miss Rosemary West.

The European roots of ecumenical change

Three centuries celebrated in Germany, Hallstatt in England, and Leo XIII in the Vatican. But the concept was still unfamiliar and the vision still clouded. We can see today that things became clearer after the end of the War. In England we had the Lambeth Bishops' ringing Appeal for Reunion in 1920 and, soon after, the Faith and Order conferences paved the way ahead for all three Catholic, who remained on their own, almost to the eve of the second world upheaval.

The careers of our three men illustrate several gradual approaches to change. Roncalli, after serving briefly in the Indian army, was for a time at the centre of foreign missionary activity in Rome. Later he represented the Holy See in the Balkans. He became an authority on the Orthodox churches and, after serving in Constantinople, on the new Turkey of Atatürk, and on Islam. In the case of Bea, post-war mobility led him to head a new province of the Jesuits in South Germany, and later the Biblical Institute in Rome, with offshoots in Palestine. He met and made friends with fellow experts of other traditions almost taken for granted the time he was called upon to

steer through the Secretariat of Unity, the contribution made by Orthodox and Protestant to the Council. Paul Couturier, meanwhile, remained what he was all through — a schoolmaster with an enormous range of correspondents in all the churches, whom he taught to pray and study for reunion as and when God wills it.

The main difference brought about by these men was a realistic, and at the same time hopeful, recognition that the moulds in which they had grown up were irretrievably broken and that new, flexible, and more universal, had to be created. Behind all of this, though not quite clearly perceived at the time, lay a Benedictine Abbey, founded for the express purpose of promoting prayer and study for Union between East and West. This had been established at Amay in Belgium soon after the First World War by Dom Lambert Beaudouin, who had links with all three men.

This extraordinary genius was born eight years before the others at Liege in Belgium. After many ups and downs of fortune, he lived to see much of what he stood and suffered for, accepted and almost taken for granted before his death in 1960. In

1914 he was a refugee in England, briefly in touch with George Bell, later Bishop of Chichester, when he was secretary to Archbishop Davidson; thus he laid the foundations of his great regard for Anglicanism. This led him to evolve the formula *Unité non-absorbée* as a solution to the differences between Canterbury and Rome. Cardinal Mercier adopted it at Malines and it has since become almost a byword. Soon afterwards Beaudouin was teaching theology in Rome, where Bea was doing the same in another institution. Their paths probably crossed. Certainly he met Roncalli there as he was setting out on his first voyage Apostolic delegate. He liked to accompany him as his secretary. Though this plan did not come off they kept in touch. There is no hard evidence that Beaudouin met Spencer Jones, the Tractarian country rector who sowed the seed of the Week of Prayer for Unity. But it was kept at Amay, and later promoted to the successor monastery of Chevignone. There Couturier, an associate member, picked up the idea, and in his turn spread it far and wide from Lyons.

Herbert Keldany

Solomon railway picture sells for record £65,934

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

English genre painting at its best provided one of the highlights of Sotheby's New York sale of a superb collection of European paintings on Thursday. Abraham Solomon's railway picture, "First Class", set a new auction record for a painting when it sold for £120,000 (estimated £80,000-£100,000) or £65,934, to an unnamed London dealer.

Solomon exhibited two paintings in 1852 were the greatest prizes of the final depicting St James the Less and St Paul, and they sold for £5,000 (estimated £2,000-£3,000) to a private collector from the Channel Islands.

Even earlier was an Edwardian IV wrythen-knapp spoon made in London about 1685. It brought £4,200 (estimated £4,000-£5,000).

Among the curiosities was an Anglo-Roman spoon with a bockin handle and a piercing egg dated to the end of the fifth century AD at 1900 (estimated £1,200-£1,500). A London spoon of 1751, a handle unscrupulously became a narrow scoop made £1,400 (estimated £900-£1,000).

When he retired from the Army in 1949 as Vice-Quartermaster-General, he became general manager of NAAFI. During the war he was the executive director of NAAFI in the hands of a committee, and Gerry Feilden was the first individual chief executive in the post-war era.

NAAFI is essentially a commercial organisation, albeit devoted to the service of the Forces and their families, and Gerry Feilden quickly acquired the necessary commercial acumen. He also brought his administrative skills and robust wisdom to bear on the many problems confronting NAAFI as it adjusted to the needs of the Forces in the post-war world.

His care for his staff, his ability to trust and to delegate, and his very special brand of humour quickly endeared him to all levels in NAAFI. He continued as chief executive until 1961 and then stayed on as a non-executive director until 1964.

During this long period of 15 years NAAFI absorbed much of his time, and he will be remembered for his gratitude and deep affection by all those who were privileged to serve with him.

Major-General Sir James d'Arvidor-Goldsmid, writer of your admirable obituary notice of General Gerry described in detail his great contribution to horse racing as an administrator, and his achievement during his extended tour as Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, a post-war record for time in the appointment.

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MR BERNARD GUY

Varied military, business and church career

Mr Bernard Gordon Guy, who has died aged 89, was the youngest son of Canon Douglas Guy of Harrogate, and brother of Commander B.J.D. Guy, VC, DSO.

On leaving Winchester College, he farmed in British Columbia for some years; at the outbreak of the First World War he enlisted in Lord Strathcona's Horse, and for the first three years of the war served in France, where he won the M.C.

He joined the Salonika Expeditionary Force in 1918, and was present at the surrender of the Bulgarian Army on September 28, of the Turks a month later, and reached the Danube the day before the Austrians surrendered on November 11, 1918.

Between the two world wars he was in business in Britain. He served again in the Army throughout the Second World War, as a lieutenant colonel in command of training camps.

Retiring from business at the age of 60, he spent five years in the Middle East working to ease the lot of Palestinian and other refugees. From 1957 until his

second retirement at the age of 70, he was general secretary of the Jerusalem and the East Mission, a post which followed from his experiences in the Middle East.

During his five years with the Mission, he was closely involved with the Most Rev A.C. Macnnes, the first Archbishop of Jerusalem, in the establishment of the Jerusalem and the East Mission, in the launching of St George's College, a training college in Jerusalem for Anglican clergy.

A man of energy and enterprise, and ever resourceful, his inquiring mind and varied interests kept him active to the end. Those who knew him will especially remember his sense of fun, and the kindly practical help he was always ready to give.

He was married first to Joyce Natalie Fisher who died in 1922, and secondly to Catherine Young Hagart; she and his four children (two from each marriage) survive him.

Through this association with the group and its subsidiary, Cary played an important part in the business life of Stratford-upon-Avon; the affinity he felt for the town and its people was reflected in the group's involvement in local affairs and activities.

Having been in farming all his life, Cary held many offices in the National Farmers' Union, culminating in county president between 1973 and 1975.

He is survived by his wife, Nan, and four daughters.

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MR RALPH CARY

Chairman of the National Farmers Union Mutual and Avon Insurance Group, has died suddenly. His home in Pottery, Wiltshire, at the age of 66.

Cary's association with the NFU Mutual began in 1962, with his appointment as local director. In 1967 he joined the boards of the NFU Mutual and Avon, becoming vice chairman in 1974 and chairman a year later. He was also chairman of the Stratford-upon-Avon printing firm, Edward Fox and Son.

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Forthcoming marriages

Colonel D. H

Saturday Review

The gifts of the Gonzaga

by Peter Watson

"They have vanished", said Aldous Huxley, speaking of the Gonzaga dynasty, the Renaissance Dukes of Mantua. "They are as wholly extinct as the dinosaurs".

When Prince Charles opens the Splendours of the Gonzaga exhibition next week at the Victoria and Albert Museum, the dinosaurs will walk again. In the 1620s his predecessor and namesake, King Charles I, bought a great number of paintings from Vincenzo Gonzaga in a move that was the beginning of the end for the Mantuan dukes: the rest of their great collections were subsequently dispersed around Europe. Now, for the first time in 350 years, some of the paintings, furniture, jewelry and ceramics have been brought together again.

Peter Watson travelled to Mantua to explore the ducal palaces that were the home of a family who, despite their hunch backs and congenital syphilis, created one of the most civilized courts Europe has ever known. I stumbled across the Gonzaga by happy accident. Interested in Charles I's magnificent collection of paintings, I was astonished to learn that he had bought many of them in a single sale in the late 1620s from Vincenzo Gonzaga, Duke of Mantua. Who, I asked myself, was this Duke who had amassed such a collection in the first place? Works by Titian and Tintoretto, Rubens and Mantegna, Giulio Romano and Paolo Veronese, Correggio and Giovanni Bellini — and was yet poor enough, or mad enough, to part with it?

I soon learned that Vincenzo was the weak, inept, sterile runt of a once formidable family; that, according to the art dealer Daniel Nys, who in the 1620s acted as intermediary in the sale to Charles I, the Duke had let the paintings go for 88,000 scudi, far less than their market value. "... to the surprise of all Italy and the disgust of the people of Mantua".

The story of how the Gonzaga rose from mere peasants to rule as one of the most civilized courts of all time, and then to crash again, caused Huxley to describe Mantua as "the most romantic city in the world". It is perhaps another happy accident that the Gonzaga exhibition opens while the BBC series about the Borgia in Rome is running on television. For though the Gonzaga are not, at the moment, household names, like the Borgia themselves, the Medici in Florence or the Estensi in Ferrara, the artistic trappings of the Gonzaga court are every bit as worthy of our acclaim as those of other families.

For example, at one time or another, the Gonzaga court had Giulio Romano and Alberti as its architects; Pisanello, Andrea Mantegna and Peter Paul Rubens as its painters; miniatures woven in Brussels around 1530 based on Raphael's cartoons for the Sistine Chapel; Giuseppe Monteverdi as its composer and master of music; and Baldasar Castiglione, author of *The Courtier*, as its ambassador to Rome. And possibly the first children's school.

Mantua itself is also unusual physically. It was originally a five-sided island, a head of the damming of the River Mincio as long ago as 1198. Even now it is surrounded on three sides by these lakes. And the Ducal Palace and its associated buildings house a number of curious yet impressive features which help show what an idiosyncratic family the Gonzaga were. For instance, the ducal buildings include:

- Stabling for 500 horses, with a special arena where they could be displayed to visitors;
- An enormous roof garden (about the size of the garden at the top of Baker's) capable of people to exercise during the formal meals at court, which often ran to more than 100 courses;
- A curious domed room, built by Giulio Romano and frescoed with pictures of plants and where the echo lasts a full seven seconds;
- An entire apartment built to scale for dwarfs;
- A bedroom with a maze on the ceiling, just in case the Dukes got bored;
- Staircases for horses, so the Dukes and their wives didn't have to walk up to their rooms;
- A clock, constructed in 1473, which not only told the time of day but also provided a horoscope and told the Mantuan people the proper days on which to prune plants, take medicine, go to the doctor, start on trips, or make clothes;
- A bell tower with a cage halfway up, on the outside: here prisoners were kept, on show.

Note that the impressive is mixed up with the unusual, indeed the bizarre. There was certainly an extraordinary side to the Gonzaga which perhaps gives a fresh slant on Renaissance



Faces from one of the most-civilized courts of all time: above, Isabella d'Este, in a portrait by Leonardo da Vinci; Francesco Gonzaga, in commensurate form; and bottom, terracotta bust of Francesco Gonzaga II, by Minelli

life, one not so easily seen in the lives of the better-known families. For instance, although there was a Gonzaga cardinal by 1461, and nine more before 1615, and though one of them nearly became Pope and another was a candidate for canonization, the family was at the same time fascinated by astrology. Next to the main hall on the top floor of the Ducal Palace is a room devoted entirely to the study of stars. In the Palazzo Te, Giulio Romano's summer palace for the Dukes, there is yet another room given over entirely to the heavens; and elsewhere in Mantua, in another villa, is an astrological room (actually above a chapel) that is decorated with grotesque and obscene renderings of Gemini, Cancer, Taurus and so on.

The family kept dwarfs, and themselves possessed hump-backs. Isabella d'Este, one of the best-known of the Gonzaga, she married into the family — put together one of the Renaissance's most fabulous collections but this too had its unusual and fantastic aspects. It was the fashion then as it is now to have paintings or sculpture according to school, origin or age, as museums do now, but to jumble everything up. So Isabella had sculptures by Michelangelo and Praxiteles' Sleeping Cupid mixed up with fish teeth, a unicorn horn and a musical arrangement which consisted solely of the pauses between notes.

The fantastic and the extravagant may be what attracts us now. But it is also true that the Gonzaga governed uninterrupted and in peace for more than 200 years, longer than any other ruling family in Italy. All round them were more powerful, and richer dynasties. The Gonzaga had no military prowess worth speaking of. Why and how they survived to produce such a sparkling court is one of the enigmas of the Renaissance and the main reason why they are of such fascination to scholars.

Genealogists in Italy have tried hard to find an aristocratic strain in Gonzaga blood. The city of Virgil, Rigoletto and the relic of the holy blood seemed somehow to require it. But the genealogists have failed.

The Gonzaga were peasants to begin with, living under the protection of the Monastery of San Benedetto in Polirone. The monastery received land in the form of bequests from wealthy families — and gave it away in small parcels to locals who promised to cultivate their portions. By dint of rural diplomacy with the monks, the Gonzagas thus managed to amass rural property.

They moved to the city of Mantua in the thirteenth century and began to take part in political life. As their wealth increased (the city became rich also through the trade in textiles and silk) so did their ambition. The ruling family at the time were the Bonacolsi but, in 1328, Luigi — then head of the House of Gonzaga — overthrew the Bonacolsi by means of a silent midnight coup.

Luigi borrowed troops from Cangrande della Scala, lord of neighbouring Verona, and they cleared across the bridges in silence, so that the fighting took place right in the centre of Mantua itself, in the main square.



The battle scene is beautifully rendered in Domenico Morone's *The Expulsion of the Bonacolsi*, a marvelous mixture of browns and reds, gold and cream. This picture normally hangs in the Ducal Palace but is just one of the masterpieces brought over to the V & A.

According to documents in the Gonzaga archive, Luigi murdered Rinaldo's body and kept it for good luck — a wise move since his family were to rule in Mantua in unbroken succession from that humid autumn night in 1328 until 1630. Thus they were established long before most of the other, more familiar Renaissance dynasties (their collapse coinciding incidentally with the loss of Rinaldo's corpse).

Under the early dukes, Mantua expanded and the city wall was rebuilt. After Luigi, the first Gonzaga of real note was Gianfrancesco who, trading on the wealth of the family through its superb farm management, squeezed the title of Marquis out of the German Emperor, Sigismund Hohenzollern in 1433.

Squeezed is the right word: it cost Gianfrancesco 12,000 gold florins to secure the title, a price considered so exorbitant that the emperor also threw in the hand of his niece Barbara of Brandenburg for Ludovico, Gianfrancesco's son. The family was on its way and many more diplomatic marriages were to follow, to the



Top: Ludovico Gonzaga with his secretary — detail from Camera degli Sposi by Andrea Mantegna; Renaissance Mantegna map of Mantua; and another detail painted with the arms of the Gonzaga

and earning the nickname, "That pleasant little hunchback".

The fourth marquis, Francesco II, was painted by Mantegna and can be seen at the left of the Madonna of Victory, now in the Louvre. Francesco II was sensual rather than artistic. He loved horses and erotic verse with the same intensity, and it was he who helped build the fabulous stable of 300 animals. He gave them away as presents, very often to English kings, and at one stage there was a plan to present 200 of them to Henry III of France when he went to Mantua on a visit.

Colorful as he was, Francesco was eclipsed by his wife, Isabella d'Este. Isabella rates as the most famous female patron of the Renaissance. She kept her thousands of objects in a small studiolo and grove (so called because it was built to resemble a cave) which admitted her secret garden. After she was widowed she lived in these apartments with her ladies-in-waiting, equally colourful girls with names like Tortolina, Diana "piu calda del sole" (hotter than the sun), and Isabella Ballerina.

Clifford Brown, in the *Burlington Magazine*, has discovered the following among Isabella's fabulous possessions: allegorical paintings by Mantegna, Piero Perugino, Lorenzo Costa, Jan van Eyck and Correggio; 133 rare books including Petrarch, Apuleius, Philostratus, Ovid; coffers of walnut; chairs inlaid with multi-coloured ivory; chests of pearwood and beechwood; an astrolabe in a rooled leather case; an inkwell in the shape of a harpy's foot; 1,600 engraved gems; two engraved gems with fossil remains; five jasper salt cellars; 71 crystal cups and vases decorated with silver; a dog's muzzle with gold grating.

In 1478 the plague hit Mantua and carried off Ludovico; his son we can forget about — he was probably the least distinguished Gonzaga, reigning only six years

Then there was her Michelangelo Cupid (a gift from Cesare Borgia), her Praxiteles Sleeping Cupid, a Satyr by Antonio Lombardo, a damascene water jug, a silver perfume bottle, a porphyry table with floral and animal designs under crystal insets, and on it a walnut casket holding 90 gold and 140 silver medallions.

She made her own perfume, persuaded Leonardo to sketch her, and collected the Este Gonzaga maiolica dinner service designed by Nicolo da Urbino with all manner of designs from Apollo to bow-hunting scenes to musical notation and the Gonzaga arms. (Some of which is in the exhibition).

Isabella's influence on Mantua was as civilising as Ludovico's had been. Particularly it influenced her son Frederico. He was adored by both his father and mother but he did have to spend two years as a hostage in the luxurious Papal court of Julius II. His artistic taste thus became very Roman and, when his father died in 1519 (from syphilis), Frederico assumed power at 19 and lost no time in negotiating to bring Raphael's favourite pupil, Giulio Pippi, better known as Giulio Romano, to Mantua.

In this Baldasar Castiglione was influential so that Romano was in Mantua by 1524. Romano seems to have been perfectly suited to Mantua with his taste for the "fantastic and rhetorical", and in the space of three years built three palaces. At that time Mantua was still an island and Romano's most ambitious palace was the Palazzo Te, "a bow-shot from the town" on the island of Tejo. Palazzo Te was for relaxation and breeding horses but Romano also designed allegorical and political pictures for its walls. They were designed to praise and bolster the Emperor Charles V when he visited the renovated Mantua in 1530. Giulio's play seems to have worked, for the Gonzagas were elevated to dukes following the emperor's visit.

Isabella died in 1539, and Frederico not so long after. He went in 1545, probably from congenital syphilis like his father and so many others in the family; and then Giulio Romano followed in the next year. With these three deaths the golden age of the Gonzaga ended.

An unhappy period followed: there was rule by an austere cardinal and by Castiglione, a misanthropic bigot with a body badly deformed by his hereditary hump. In truth the Gonzaga were on the way down — but there was still one late sparkle to brighten the court.

Vincenzo I was the exact opposite of his father Giulio. He was handsome, loving, gregarious, though with a predilection for getting into duels and scandals. It was Vincenzo who called on the services of Rubens (who spent several years in Mantua), Monteverdi (who wrote *Orfeo* and *Il Ballo delle Ingrate* in Mantua and whose orchestra played every Friday night in the hall of mirrors). It was Vincenzo who kept a full-time ambassador in Spain searching for the fabled "elixir of life".

Yet though we must remember Vincenzo with warmth, though he had neither syphilis, the plague nor the family hump, the fact remains that he died in incredible debt (maybe the search for the elixir had something to do with it, maybe being married to Eleonora de Medici was a further drain on his purse). Whatever the reason, Vincenzo's debts were so chaotic that when he died, and his son soon after, his nephew Ferdinando had to resign from the college of cardinals to get to grips with the problems entailed in governing Mantua. Ferdinando, a cultured man, stemmed the tide for a while and brought to his city the artists Domenico Fetti, Saraceni, Baglione and Albani.

Yet it could only be an interlude: Vincenzo's profligacy had been too dramatic. And when Ferdinando died in 1626 there was no direct heir — which brings us back to his brother Vincenzo II.

Vincenzo was so weak that he barely had time to part with his paintings, which included: Titian's *Concert*, Deposition and the lost *Portraits of the Caesars*; allegorical paintings by Correggio, the *Triumph of Mantegna*, and a portrait by Giovanni Bellini.

Whether he let them go for too little scarcely mattered to him — he was dead inside a year, so he can barely have had time to spend the money anyway. His final pathetic act was in contracting a sterile marriage so that when he went the dukedom passed out of the main line of the family altogether, to Carlo Rethel Gonzaga Nevers, a French princeling.

Three years after that matters accelerated even faster: Mantua was sacked by imperial troops. The Gonzaga Nevers, it should be said, did make an attempt to recreate Mantuan glory but unfortunately for them Ferdinando Carlos took the wrong side during the War of the Spanish Succession. In 1707 he had to flee to Venice but was declared a felon, all rights in Mantua passing into the hands of Austria. So when Ferdinando Carlos died in 1708 the Gonzaga line disappeared with him.

But though the fabulous collections were dispersed and in some cases destroyed, the enigma of the Gonzaga has persisted. They were splendid without vast riches, stable without being large, endured without being militaristic. In short, the society created by these syphilitic hunchbacks came closer to being truly civilised, in the modern sense, than most others throughout Europe. That is why they remain fascinating.

Records of the Month

John Higgins

The best of British

Masenet: Werther. Von Stade / Carreras / Allen. Covent Garden Chorus and Orchestra. Philips. 6769 051 (3 discs). £75.45.

Verdi: La Traviata. Masteron / Brecknock / Allen. EMI. 525 16 (2 discs). £15.25.

Strauss: Arabella. Varady / Donath / Fischer-Dieskau. Bavarian State Opera Chorus and Orchestra. EMI. 525 20 (3 discs).

The chaurvinist heart is entitled to swell a little this month confronted with opera sets stemming from each of the major London houses. On Philips there is Masenet's Werther, with the Covent Garden forces under Sir Colin Davis and the cast led by Jose Carreras and Frederike Von Stade, just as it was at the Royal Opera at the beginning of 1980, when presumably this record was made. EMI provide a Traviata in English, with Valerie Masteron and John Brecknock, and the Coliseum supplying the whole cast as well as the chorus and orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras. Both issues show the respective companies at their very best.

The main flaw in Philips's Werther is that it comes last in a batch of recordings of the work. Two years ago it would have been difficult to track down a complete version of Masenet's masterpiece; now there are three, each thoroughly creditable in its own way, with Domingo and Obrazova on DG, Kraus and Troyanos on EMI as well as the new Philips. Fame has turned to super-abundance in a ludicrous piece of planning, which will surely not be repeated in future now that Philips, DG and Decca are all under the same wing.

The quality of Philips's version grows from Colin Davis's deep, passionate and romantic view of Masenet score. He submerges himself and his listeners in a tidal wave of music from the sentimentality of the *clair de lune* sequence in Act I to the neurotic, almost gurgling side of Masenet in the third act.

"Souffrir sans cause" is Werther's lot in life, as he tells us on more than one occasion. What most distinguishes Carreras's interpretation of the title role is the thread of melancholy running through the voice even during his moments of apparent happiness, when for instance he catches sight of Charlotte's house in "Je ne sais pas si je l'aime". Carreras certainly did not convey this when he first sang the role in San Francisco (also with Von Stade) and probably the Colin Davis influence is to be heard here. He surpasses Kraus's exquisitely phrased but chilly account, and Domingo's far more impassioned Werther. The poet is doomed to be a sad outsider and this is exactly what Carreras conveys.

Von Stade is infected by the same *tristesse* in her admirably girlish Charlotte, on a par with Troyanos and much better than Obrazova. The rest of the cast is British, proving that our singers, and particularly those of the calibre of Thomas Allen (Alfredo), can now perform in French very creditably indeed. Those who have waited for the Philips Werther will now find themselves rewarded with the chance of buying the best of the three available sets.

EMI's new Traviata is recorded "in association with the Peter Moores Foundation". Mr Moores receives a substantial plug at the back cover of the libretto and he also provides a synopsis of the plot. EMI should also be grateful to the Coliseum for handing over the package of a highly accomplished cast and so saving them the trouble and expense of assembling a number of international singers. The presentation still has an economy look about it, including the compression of Verdi's opera on to two records, but there is nothing penny-pinching about the performance. John Brecknock and Valerie Masteron have always worked well in tandem and here the clarity



Frederica Von Stade
as Charlotte

and youthfulness of their singing, together with their matchless diction, give the impression of two people falling in love. The way that EMI has chosen to present the opera, with its many more recordings on the international circuit, Christian Du Plessis, often an inflexible artist on stage, comes over admirably on disc as German Pire Charles Mackerras moulds his orchestra and singers in a way that brings out the intimacy of the work. It is almost as though we were eavesdropping on a play and that is a considerable compliment to the whole enterprise.

If any further indication were needed of record companies' dependence on opera houses, then EMI's set of Richard Strauss's Arabella provides it. This time Munich is the theatre. Years ago, when the Bavarian State Opera's home was still in process of reconstruction and

the company was in exile at the Prinzregententheater, we went to hear a young baritone called Fischer-Dieskau singing Mandyren, with Lisa della Casa in the title role.

Fischer-Dieskau remains EMI's Mandyren and his wife, Julia Varady, is the Arabella. She is demonstrably a young girl deciding whether to shake off the yoke of her down-at-heel Viennese family for an unknown and older man from a much rougher part of the Danube. Varady has not the ideal lushness for the melodic outpouring of the final scene, something Kiri te Kanawa achieves so well, but elsewhere she is close to being a complete Arabella. Fischer-Dieskau remains the ideal Mandyren. Voices are favoured over the orchestra, but even so Sawallisch's instrumental colouring is often exquisite. A thoroughly commendable set, but still not one to banish from the mind the more sumptuous Soli version on Decca.

Paul Griffiths

Hand and voice

Liszt: Songs. Fischer-Dieskau, Barrenboim. DG 2740 254 (four records).
Schubert: Lieder. Mass in G. Solists, ORT Chorus and Vienna PO/Guschlbauer. Erato STU 71442 (two records).
Brahms: Ein deutsches Requiem. Kraus, Vienna State Opera Concert Choir, Vienna PO/Haendl. Philips 6769 055 (two records). £75.45.

Cynics might suppose that Fischer-Dieskau now turns to Liszt only because he has exhausted every other corner of the lied repertoire, but not 20 years ago he made a record of a dozen Liszt songs, and this new set, offering 43 plus one of the accompanied recitations throughout, is a firm belief in the material. Or if belief is sometimes stretched by Liszt's extravagance or tastelessness, then at least a certain fondness.

But that kind of response is really only called for in some of the more sentimental French songs. Elsewhere Fischer-Dieskau justifies Liszt's declamatory tone superbly, as well as adding a forward style of expression and delivery that catches the feelings vibrating in the surface of these songs. And where emotion is more deeply distilled, as in the *Three Petrarch Sonnets*, then he glides through the idiosyncratic phrases, sensitively disclosing the sweetness and the heartbreak.

The Petrarch set, undoubtedly the pinnacle of Liszt's song output, aptly fills the last of these eight sides and will probably be the most familiar of the songs recorded here, though the journey towards them includes other well known acquaintances: more or less literal echoes of Wagner's *Tristan*, and in "O Lieb, so lang du lieben kannst" a sung version of the perennial "Liebestraum".

It is not only here, of course, that the piano accompaniment is decisive. Many a song comes to life precisely when the voice stops and the piano takes over, and though Fischer-Dieskau is quoted in the set's brochure as finding Liszt's songs "splendidly written for the voice," in fact the melodies often travel less than readily to the larynx: the first Petrarch sonnet is a case in point.

Happily Daniel Barenboim is there to deal expertly with the warmth and the darkness and the strident passion of Liszt's piano writing, and at the same time to mute what is merely flashy. All his skills are demanded and revealed in "Der traurige Mönch", the example of that awful genre of recitation with music, but there are other numbers too which quite properly become piano pieces with voice obligato. Nevertheless, the achievement of the set as a whole is to demonstrate Liszt's ability to take the private world of song into the public world of his own musicianship.

Liszt's songs, Fischer-Dieskau, Barrenboim. DG 2740 254 (four records).
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On the other hand, nobody is likely to be thrilled with a recording of Dvorak's Requiem that also emanates from ORT. This is a piece that needs a lot of help, for though it contains some surprising things, like the pre-echoes of Janacek's *Glagolice Mass*, it humps on its back the huge handicap of a leitmotif that keeps bursting

on the scene with self-important dramatic gloom, and there are also passages that leave scope for one to recall Verdi's much sharper treatment of the same words. Sadly, only Teresa Zylis-Gara is moved here either to affection or to force: outside her solo the performance is routine and cannot replace the 12-year-old recording by Kertesz.

Brahms's Requiem is of course a much more frequently recorded work, though not often brought to the heavenly height and splendour that Haitink attains. The tempo is slow, the tone lofty, Brucknerian, and the work becomes not a prayer for pity but an irrevocable statement of fact. This objectivity I find very appealing, most particularly in the second movement, and it does not make it impossible for Gundula Janowitz to float a rapturously phrased, exquisitely touching solo at the centre.

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William Mann

Being there

Wagner: Der Ring des Nibelungen. G. Jones / H. Schwarz / Jung / McIntyre / Bayreuth Festival C & O/Boules. Philips 6769 070 - 3 (four boxes plus book in case).

Wagner: Das Rheingold. Minton / Wenkel / Schreier / Ningsberg / Adam / Dresden State Opera C & O / Janowski.

Another recorded set of The Ring? This one has curious commercial validity of its own: it brings to your turntable the 1976 Bayreuth centenary Ring, the special feature of which was its spectacle, each scene placed in some setting quite unexpected, the characters capriciously dressed to span past and present, liberties taken wholesale, yet the total effect was so good, so convincing, so the vision of the producer, Patrice Chéreau and his designer Richard Peduzzi.

Here, in a sort of a cardboard attic, is the sound track of the production, recorded live, with contributions from audience and stage floorboards. It is part of a commercial operation involving a film of the production, which will shortly hit your television set. The case includes a hardback book, overmuch concerned with Boulez-worship, but also with copious, vivid photographs of almost every important scene in The Ring, and as filmed.

You can, if so desirous, listen to the records with the book open at the relevant scene, thus bringing the experience a step closer to a seat in the Bayreuth Festspielhaus: the effect will be more vivid after the film has been seen (and until the video cassette comes on the market).

In 1976 Boulez, as conductor of The Ring, seemed a perverse choice, for though never heroic Siegfried, Peter Hoffmann a splendid Siegmund, Matti Salminen as Fasolt, and Hermann Becht as Alberich (magnificent in his Curse on the Ring), Hans Schwarz as a troubled, not only vixenish Fricka, help to keep the drama always interesting, even when Boulez is merely controlling it.

The Festspielhaus, formerly regarded as the best recording studio, begins to show imperfections, in the age of digital stereo. The orchestra often sounds muffled, the voices indistinct (perhaps only when they stand off-mike).

The new Dresden Rheingold (also digital) provides an instant comparison. Marek Janowski's recording regularly outpaces Boulez on musical penetration and superior orchestral prowess, and his local orchestra plays more interestingly and expressively than the illustrious Bayreuth Ensemble for Boulez.

interest, even given Peter Hoffmann's robust young hero, nor with the final duet in Siegfried which finds Boulez accompanying no more than dutifully, and Gwyneth Jones's Brünnhilde at her least steady above the stage, until the very high notes, which are firm, accurate, and ringing.

Moments of formality, such as Gunther's introduction of his new bride to his household, are done with theatricality and a suggestion of French grand opera style. Boulez is sound on the music's continuity, weak on its interior drama: he seems madly concerned not to look beyond his own pose. Basic scenes are musically imagined, not brilliant nor vividly imaginative — Boulez loses points to Decca/Soli whenever a comparison is made about musical expressiveness.

He gains on the effortless clarity of the set's digital recording, but loses again on the Bayreuth perspective with hooded orchestral pit usually atmospheric, here just muffled. There are glorious climaxes in his performance, some passages with a coruscating orchestral highness, such as after the Wanderers' exit in acts one and two of Siegfried. The Bayreuth cast includes Gwyneth Jones's Brünnhilde, Heinrich Gonsky's Siegmund, Heinz Zednik's Loge and Mime are brilliant, even by current high standards.

Manfred Jung offers a convincingly boyish, but underpowered, yet though never heroic Siegfried, Peter Hoffmann a splendid Siegmund, Matti Salminen as Fasolt, and Hermann Becht as Alberich (magnificent in his Curse on the Ring), Hans Schwarz as a troubled, not only vixenish Fricka, help to keep the drama always interesting, even when Boulez is merely controlling it.

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Hilary Finch

Larger than life

Richard Strauss: Alpine Symphony. Berlin Philharmonic / von Karajan. DG 2532 15.

Bruckner: Symphony No 8 / Te Deum. Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus / Barrenboim. DG 2741 007 (2 discs).

Mahler: Symphony No 5 / Adagio. Chicago Symphony Orchestra / Schwab. DG 2707 128 (2 discs).

Bach: Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin. Gidon Kremer. Philips 6769 053 (3 discs). £75.45.

With its 20 horns, organ, timpani and wind machine, Beckwithes, cowbells and 22 subtitled sections, Richard Strauss's Alpine Symphony has made life complicated for itself. As difficult to take seriously as the *Don Quixote*, the work leads itself to recording, where precisely tailored balancing and closer and repeated listening can reveal the structural strength and the quite bold originality of detail in this vast symphonic poem.

Strauss felt himself to be composing here "as a cow gives milk" and wrote: "At last I have learnt to orchestrate". And the achievement of Karajan's digital recording with the Berlin Philharmonic lies in revealing effects as naive as the first section's whistling, and as carefully underlaid and underplayed, Hans Schwarz modulates his voice exquisitely to each shade of instrumental timbre in the *Don Quixote* while remaining somewhat distant interpretatively from their poetry.

It takes a particular kind of virtuosity to recreate in one instrument the contrapuntal complexity and harmonic richness of Bach's solo violin sonatas, without turning them into mere technical studies or virtuoso showpieces. Gidon Kremer has this talent; yet his performances may not prove widely appealing simply because he refuses ever to woe us by the beauty of sound, preferring to tease out the subtleties and intellectual toughness of these unique works. The adagios of the Sonatas are sinewy, strenuous, uncompromising, the fugues tetchy with dry, aggressive double-stopping. Although in the presto movements one can almost see Mr Kremer dancing, as is his wont, around the microphone, he is surprisingly does not bring that same spring of step to the less severe movements of the Partitas, making us perceive the pattern rather than feel the movement of the dance. But it is a set well worth possessing and includes the complete autograph score of Bach's manuscript.

Teleview/Elkan Allan

The all-Limey show

For the first time ever, a British company has conceived, developed and sold a series specifically for an American network. The series is called Q.E.D., the network is CBS and the company is named Consolidated.

Wait a minute, you may be saying, we have been hearing for years about British successes on American television. Every Christmas, Lew Grade has been announcing sales figures longer than his cigars. What about the Muppets, Bear, Hill, Claudius, Civilization?

There are two important differences between these and Q.E.D. First, they are on either the Public Broadcasting System or an ad hoc collection of stations. Second, they all had the cushion of British television to fall back on; however blatantly mid-Atlantic the Grade products were, from *The Saint* to the Muppets, they were nominally British, and counted as ATV contributions to the ITV network. The sale of Benny Hill shows came almost as a surprise to Thames. As for the BBC, it has long insisted that it makes programmes for British viewers and that the Americans can take them or leave them.

This is very different from the breakthrough achieved by Q.E.D. The series has been created and custom-built for the requirements of one of the three big American networks, the market-leader, as it happens — and that is where nine-tenths of American viewers watch, and where the big money is. It may well be shown here eventually, but no deal has been agreed or even negotiated.

Q.E.D. are the initials of Quentin Everard Deverell, a scientist from the mid-West who, despite a brilliant career at Harvard, was so bitterly with the Eastern establishment of the United States that he packs his bags and comes to England. There he is faced with all kinds of problems, but only his enormous ingenuity, amazing foresight, personal courage, quirky humour and a handsome young acolyte can solve.

The year is 1912. The cause of the final row with the nabobs of American science and research is their mocking rejection of an invention he calls television (what a little box bringing cinema pictures simultaneously with the happening into every parlour in the land? You're mad, man! Ha-ha-ha). And he is played by that marvellous actor, Sam Waterston, who was among the best things in *The Godfather*, *Oppenheimer* and *Heaven's Gate*.

It is lighthearted, but not a sitcom. They are thrills and jeopardy. The sort of problem Q.E.D. has to solve is who is poisoning the sheep in Northern England? The answer is invariably a sinister organization, such as we used to see every week in *The Avengers*, and it is to this genre that the series belongs.

His daring young assistant is played by another American, A. C. Weary, but almost everyone else in sight is a British character actor, carefully schooled to make the most of the series' language and the incomprehensible.

It could be fun. It could be ghastly. Either way, it's sold and we must hope for a huge success. If only for the sake of the balance of payments. Thirty years ago the American wouldn't buy any British television, and the beach-head of *Robin Hood*, firmly mid-Atlantic. Twenty years ago they said nobody could understand the way we really spoke; then came the success of the *Forrest Gump*. Ten years ago they said we could only originate quality drama and documentaries for highbrow outlets; then came the top-rating adaptations of *Sherlock Holmes* and *Death of a Poet*. Now they say our two forms of popular television are too far apart for us to make programmes for mass appeal, and here comes Q.E.D.

The men behind the series

are John Hawksworth, who produced *Upstairs, Downstairs* another big PBS success; John Whitely, managing director of Capital Radio, the closest we have to American broadcasting in Britain; and John Pringle, a Jamaican, deeply devoted to the Mother Country, who has headed a major American advertising agency. They intended to call their company the Three Johns, with a logo of toilet seats, but chickened out.

Deciding they could capitalize on Hawksworth's reputation in the United States they started with what Pringle calls "the point of sale", and jetted off to New York to talk to his contacts in CBS. For two years, they flew back and forth between Europe (Radio Luxembourg, needing products for its forthcoming satellite operation, bought 25 per cent of the stock). Manhattan and the West Coast, suggesting ideas, working up treatments, writing scripts, getting caught in the revolving doors of changing executives and interoffice rivalries; and, finally, last year, after an investment of time and money that no small independent could afford and no television company would have the stamina for, received the go-ahead and \$1.4m for a pilot of Q.E.D.

They were still far from being home and solvent. The depressing fact is that for every 10,000 concepts submitted to the networks, only 1,000 are commissioned to go to script stage, only 100 get made into pilots, only 50 get on the air, and only 50 manage to survive into that El Dorado of a profitable third year and the bonus of syndication. From then on, it is Cadillac and Rolls-Royces all the way, but what odds? Over 1500-1, and you are up against all the Hollywood people who have had past successes and know all the people and all the wrinkles.

"If I had understood two years ago what I have learned since the hard way, I doubt if I would have tried to begin," says Pringle. "What they want is something different yet not too different, hardly different at all, in fact, from what has been successful already. They made up their minds to do times and there was no room for artistic inflexibility. Yet



Waterston: marvellous

we had to know when to say we wouldn't compromise — difficult when we had to admit that 75 per cent of their corrections resulted in improvements, certainly from their point of view. The network series game is no place for artists of pure integrity.

They still have a firm order only for six episodes, but the immediately enthusiastic response to the pilot gives them confidence that they will at least get an OK for the other seven to make up the statutory 13 of a normal first run. But when Q.E.D. goes on the CBS air as a mid-season replacement in March next year, a lot will be riding on these first British ratings. Cross your fingers for the three Johns, for Sam Waterston and the mad professor. If they click, Britain will have a new export industry.

Teleview/Michael Ratcliffe

Pan's drop-out people

The American (Brad Davis) took off all his clothes to bathe in the sea but kept them on during sexual intercourse with the heroine, although she had, of course, removed all hers since she had been taking a shower when he climbed into the bathroom window. One or two rather peculiar things took place in Mrs Reinhardt, which opened the new "Playhouse" season on BBC 2, but then Mrs Reinhardt (Helen Mirren) was having a rather peculiar time. Her art dealer husband had taken up with a witless, young tart called Rita and, after a number of increasingly painful and violent scenes, Mrs Reinhardt had swept out of the house with the BMW and his mother's old necklace. Consulting her Michelin with evident skill, she made straight for a converted mill in Brittany, complete with dovecote, village pond and starved cuisine. The American erupted into this retreat like a summoned fantasy of Disney, so himself, talking dirty and drinking hard, just as the randiest and most dangerous of the blue lobsters disappeared from the tank in the hotel dining room. Symbolic, you see.

Edna O'Brien herself adapted one of her most novelistic short stories into a 75-minute play, removing from it what edge of irony it has ("all in all", Mrs R. partly reflects of the aforesaid Rita, "she was gamine"). For the middle-aged wife with a grown-up son in America and a determination to enjoy the sabbath in her own good time (this is by the end of the week) she substituted an attractive younger woman implausibly given to such daffy observations of her fellow creatures as "how lucky to be lucky" and "why can't I be like that?" The setting and framework were perfect — not just the Breton locations but the thoroughly convincing Frenchness of the natives led by an adoring patron (Jean Rougier) and a Madame fanatical in the causes of respectability and *haute cuisine* (Nancy Nevins) — but it was impossible to believe in Mr Davis, a good actor who was made to talk like a character left over from the 1950s or in the helplessness of Miss Mirren, one of my favourite actresses, as a woman unable either to order herself a good French dinner or to resist a corny drop-out Pan.

THEATRES

SAVOY. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-1.30. 1.30-2.00. 2.00-2.30. 2.30-3.00. 3.00-3.30. 3.30-4.00. 4.00-4.30. 4.30-5.00. 5.00-5.30. 5.30-6.00. 6.00-6.30. 6.30-7.00. 7.00-7.30. 7.30-8.00. 8.00-8.30. 8.30-9.00. 9.00-9.30. 9.30-10.00. 10.00-10.30. 10.30-11.00. 11.00-11.30. 11.30-12.00. 12.00-12.30. 12.30-1.00. 1.00-

THE UNWINS FILE

By Patrick Cunningham

Oysters and Muscadet

If I can claim to know any wine at all intimately, it must be Muscadet. (One year in Brittany I drank virtually nothing else for a fortnight.) That of Philippe Montmorin passes all my tests. It is star-bright, a pale straw-yellow, and has quite a long but very refreshing finish.

By sheer good luck, I'd been given some oysters when it was time to test this wine. The almost acidic coolness of the wine (one hour in the fridge door) complemented them perfectly.

Bottled

I noted this appellation contrôlée wine of Sevre et Maine was bottled before it left home - a point distinctly in its favour. I would strongly recommend it with any shellfish or, indeed, any fish at all.

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"Careful—that's Paternina Rioja you're spilling over my thesis on Urban Sociology and Creative Dance."



© Banda Azul is one of the Paternina Collection—a range of fine wines from Rioja.

Collectors diary/Geraldine Norman

Wastepaper wonders

The history of wastepaper baskets is one of the few remaining uncharted areas of the antiques world. When Sotheby's claimed to have secured a record auction price for a Chippendale wastepaper basket last summer, I noted the possibility in this column that it was an adapted plate basket, and asked for help in resolving the mystery.

When did those useful paper receptacles come into existence? Very little light has been shed. However, last week I received a letter from Peter Thornton, the Keeper of Furniture at the Victoria and Albert Museum: "You asked me about wastepaper baskets some time ago and this made me look at pictures. An American book (Harold Peterson's *American Interiors* Scribner's, New York, 1971) has a good illustration, plate 98, showing one of wicker in 1854 with paper in it under a desk."

In the caption the author states that the earliest representation of one he knows is dated 1852, and reminds me that Sears Roebuck & Co. did not bother to include such items in their catalogues until 1900.

In the Introduction (p. xvii) he repeats that they came in during the mid century in the United States, "when they were confined to the studies of writers and politicians". I have seen European illustrations of them from the 1820s but not, I think, earlier. I think open fires consumed what little paper was actually wasted.

Last July I thought I had a lead on a Chinese Chippendale wastepaper basket which would have taken the history of the receptacle in Britain back to the 1760s. It has proved an instructive dead end.

A kind reader alerted me to the existence of such an article in the collection of the National Trust at Pooleston Lacey, dated by their guide book to 1765.

It is of octagonal form with open fretwork sides, which was also the case with Sotheby's record breaker. But in this case the design is significantly different; the sides slope outwards and the top of each is curved to form a handle. Sotheby's example (in common with most plate baskets) has vertical sides with a fixed metal handle over the top.

Graham Child, the head of Sotheby's furniture department, very kindly visited Pooleston Lacey to check out

the basket. Sadly, he reports it to be Edwardian imitating features of eighteenth century style. Pooleston Lacey was furnished by the great Edwardian hostess Mrs Margaret Greville and she may well have had it made to match her fine antiques. (My thanks are due to Christopher Beharrell at Pooleston Lacey for helping seal off this dead end.)

That leaves the earliest definite wastepaper basket sitting as a Viennese Biedermeier interior of the 1820s. Any earlier references, pictorial or literary, would be gratefully received.

The hitherto unknown love letters exchanged between the poet William Wordsworth and his wife, Mary, appeared unexpectedly in a Sotheby auction in 1977. They were acquired by the Trustees of Dove Cottage, who are now springing them on the world, duly edited in a limited edition which must also be set to become a collectors' item.

"I am never, instructed, never touched by a tender feeling, but my heart instinctively turns to you: I never see a flower that pleases me but I wish for you," writes Wordsworth to Mary, and

after the birth of their first five children, what is more! Entitled *My Dearest Love*, the letters, all dating from 1810, have been printed in facsimile by The Scolar Press and are edited with an introduction and transcriptions by Beth Darlington, and a foreword by Jonathan Wordsworth.

The edition is limited to 315 copies, of which 300 are for sale (at special pre-publication prices) until January 1, 1982; 55 special copies bound by hand in full vellum cost £450 each, the other 265 copies bound in quarter morocco cost £215. Enquiries to: Blackwell's Rare Books, Wyfield Manor, Wyfield, Oxford.

□ Hurry, hurry! The third exhibition of "Antique Medical Instruments" organized by Simon Kaye at 14 Albemarle Street, London W1, closes today. This is your chance to view a case of some of the most curious instruments of the past. Maw, Son & Thompson 1875, at £800; a silver tongue depressor of c1770 at £160; a set of carved ivory false teeth c1840 at £220 and a double catheter c1860 at £30. There are some 200 instruments of torture on show.

□ Collectors entranced by the Tate's retrospective of David Jones' paintings and drawings this summer would be wise to consider dipping a toe in that curious market known as "the modern" illustrated book.

The quarto volume entitled *The Engravings of David Jones*, just published by Douglas Cleverdon under his Clover Hill Editions imprint, is something of a plum in this field. Cleverdon himself is a man to be reckoned with, having been a pioneer in this work in the 1920s and 1930s; he published *The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner* with engravings by David Jones in 1929.

After spending some 30 years with the B.C. he has returned to his old love in retirement. The edition includes seven copies on vellum at £4,000 each (already sold out), 105 copies on hand-made paper at £500 each, 250 copies on vellum at £200 each and 75 copies of the engravings unbound at £250; nine copper-engravings and a dry-point, printed on Japan from the original plates, accompany "a *bonne bouche*" the vellum and hand-made paper volumes, as well as the loose sets of prints.

Drink / Pamela Vandyke Price

By any other name . . .

anything slightly fatty, when the assertiveness of this grape does not risk being overwhelmed and the crispness of a well-made example freshens the palate.

A comparison of Sauvignon from various vineyards will demonstrate how the grape's family resemblance is maintained, even when wines from warm vineyards display a slight softness. Here are some suggestions for a Sauvignon-tasting, but a list of all those currently available would be long. Most of these wines are useful as first course drinks, or second wines for offering at meals when somebody is unable to

drink anything red. A Sauvignon is definitely a multi-purpose bottle, a practical addition to any cellar.

The Fume Blanc (no one speaks to know why the French name was transposed) of Robert Mondavi is possibly the best-known example from California. Definite, four-square, somewhat lacking in bouquet to many European tastes, it is a big wine, the 1979 costing £5.75 from Les Amis du Vin, whose new list has just appeared from their wine warehouse at 7, Ariel Way, Wood Lane, Shepherd's Bush, W12, as well as at their shop, 51 Chiswick, W4. More gentle and modestly priced, the Bordeaux Sauvignon of Louis Dubroca costs £2.15 from André Simon, 14 Davies Street, London, W1 and branches.

There are a number of Bordeaux Sauvignons on sale today, but the grape was not used here by itself until the late Allan Sichel had the notion a quarter of a century ago of making a dry white wine solely from it, after producing what all concerned admitted was a thoroughly unpleasant first vintage, this pioneer a highly successful version and, today, the dry white wine made at Sichel's cave de vinification sold under the name Bel Air is yet another Sauvignon.

A big co-operative near Poitiers called Haut Poitou makes a short range of wines that I have found admirable small-scale classics, often recommended in this column. They are categorized only as V.D.Q.S. but in quality they are on a par with many A.C. wines. There, Sauvignon seems particularly satisfactory and, in a study session, might well act as the yardstick by which to appraise other wines; it tends to be neither as "green" nor as sharply dry as many Loire Sauvignons yet retains a crisp, trim style slightly fresher than a Sauvignon from a more southerly region. The 1979 Sauvignon du Haut Poitou costs £3.17 from Bow Wine Vaults, 10 Bow Churchyard, EC4 or you can see how it displays the style of a different and

somewhat cooler vintage by comparing it with the 1980, which costs £2.65 from Les Amis du Vin.

Haynes Hanson & Clark (36 Kensington Church St W8) have a 1980 Sauvignon from the Côte de Buras for £2.75. This region, south-east of the Bordeaux area, now makes pleasant red and white wines, the light soil giving a zip and neatness to the whites. In particular, this example is agreeably full and fruity, showing a touch of the "goosegrip green" character more obvious in Loire Sauvignons and which is evident in the 1980 Sauvignon de Touraine of Saget, a delicious, crisp wine (it costs £2.75 from S. B. Jones, 27 High St, Banbury, Oxon and 50 Market Square, Brackley, Northants).

From Laytons (27 Midland Rd, NW1) there is an interesting bargain, a wide called Sauvignon "Chazelles", 1980; this is made by a Bordeaux grower, whose comments are on the northern edge of the A.C. limit and who was asked by Laytons to attempt a version of the type of quality, freshness and steely authority possessed by a good Sancerre. The Chazelles is the result: a wine with an unfolding, crisp "green" charm, a first-rate dry white deserving to be widely known. It costs £2.64.

For a red wine to serve with any food after a white wine tasting, there is a delicious Bordeaux Supérieur, Côte de Castillon (scene of the battle where Joan of Arc's companion in arms, Dunois, finally defeated the English under Sir John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury). This 1979 Chateau de Mondragon, delicately shaded from light tawny to plum red, freshly aromatic with the bouquet of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, is a "modern" claret in the best sense of the word, immediately enjoyable yet so well made as to please palates accustomed to the greatest growths. It costs £2.65 from 50 selected branches of Marks & Spencer, whose press office at Michael House, Baker St, W1 will advise if it is available near where you live.

Diary Quiz



Some more questions from the week's news. Answers in Monday's Diary.

- 1 Who entered the bear pit?
- 2 Why is fur flying in the charity world?
- 3 Where were 15,000 on the run?
- 4 Who rolled out the barrel a bit too much?
- 5 Who lost a run of the mill job?
- 6 Quenching the flames of inflation?
- 7 What is tribology?
- 8 Who won an unexpected victory?
- 9 "To him who hath shall be given?"
- 10 Who was accused of skimping on a steam?
- 11 Brighton Belle?
- 12 Another fringing strike!
- 13 Industry in a nose dive?
- 14 An awful lot of contracts in . . .

Many thanks to all those punters who contributed. The joint runners-up are Miss E. Jenkins of Ickenham and Mrs R. Nisbet of Drayton for "Making the Micky". Trevor

Field deserves a mention for the worst pun of the week with "A mouse's carpiece of British design". The winner is Michael Cloughton of Ashford for "The Mouse Tap".

An armed robber caught in the act by video camera as he held up a bank in this week's picture. The usual bundle of champagne to the reader who sends in the wittiest caption.

Bridge/Jeremy Flint

Defence secrets

The struggle to preserve your own entries, or at times to destroy enemy communications, often creates opportunities for skilful play by both sides. On this hand, the key to the winning defence was a deep insight into declarer's plan.

USA v Italy, Bermuda Bowl, Rio de Janeiro, 1979. Game all. Dealer South.

W. Lurie	N. Brochman	E. Garozzo	S. Passell
W	N	E	S
14	No	10	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10

Opening lead ♠2. Brachman's two club bid was a conventional attempt to discover whether South had three-card spade support.

When Passell rebid two hearts he denied holding three spades, so Brachman closed the auction with three no trumps.

Passell won the lead with dummy's ♠K. Adopting a strategy of "line" he cashed the ♠A and returned to dummy with the ♠Q to play the ♠Q. Garozzo took the ♠K, declarer discarding a heart. At this point the commentators confidently predicted that Passell was going to make his contract. It appeared that he had nine tricks, five diamonds, two clubs and two spades. If Garozzo had solidly persisted with a club, the commentators would have been right.

Instead Garozzo found a subtle but deadly switch to a diamond. Suddenly Passell was faced with a serious communication problem. He had to win the diamond in dummy, otherwise the suit would be blocked. Well aware of the danger, he cashed the ♠J, but when he continued

with the ♠J Lurie won and returned a heart, enabling Garozzo to defeat the contract with the ♠A and his two winning spades. Notice that if Passell had elected to abandon the ♠J, turning his attention to the hearts, he would still have been defeated. Garozzo would have taken the ♠A and continued hearts to establish the setting trick in that suit.

A distinct echo of this theme occurred in a more humble setting.

Rabber bridge. Game all. Dealer South.

W. Lurie	N. Brochman	E. Garozzo	S. Passell
W	N	E	S
14	No	10	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10

Opening lead ♠A. West continued with a second club to East's ♠K, which declarer ruffed. Hoping to induce a defensive slip, declarer crossed to dummy with the ♠K to play the ♠J. East correctly covered and declarer's ♠K lost to West's ♠A. West, who was no Garozzo, lamely continued with a third club. Declarer ruffed with the ♠J, cashed the two top trumps, felling West's ♠Q, and crossed to dummy with the ♠Q. He extracted the last trump with the ♠10. When the spades divided, he had 10 tricks, two club ruffs, four trump tricks, and four spades.

When West won the ♠A at trick four, he should have been conscious of the dangers of a club continuation. Declarer's unusual play in the diamond suit might have suggested the right answer - a spade. Declarer would no longer have the entries to

enjoy a second club ruff and return to dummy to draw the outstanding trump. Strangely, on this hand even a trump switch would have sufficed. The lesson is to be chary of forcing declarer when he attempts a dummy reversal, because you may be helping him on his way.

My third example is taken from *Play Safe and Win*, by Eric Jamieson and Jan Wolhin, published by Victor Gollancz at £5.95. Two of Sweden's greatest players have collaborated to produce an admirably clear and comprehensive account of expert play, with the emphasis on correcting bad distributions. This hand is taken from the chapter entitled "Securing Communications".

Teams of four. Game all. Dealer North.

W. Lurie	N. Brochman	E. Garozzo	S. Passell
W	N	E	S
14	No	10	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10
No	14	No	10

Opening lead ♠K. After North had opened one diamond, South became the declarer in this no trumps. He took the first trick in dummy with the ♠A and continued with the ♠10, which West ducked. After some desperate but ineffectual wriggling, declarer emerged with only eight tricks. He went wrong at trick two, try the effect of returning the ♠K. If West wins with the ♠Q South can subsequently overtake the ♠10 with the ♠J and score two extra club tricks. If West continues with the ♠10, ensuring nine tricks.

As the authors truthfully admit, "the majority of West players would have captured the ♠10 at trick two, but it does no harm to protect yourself from the possibility of running up against a hot defence."

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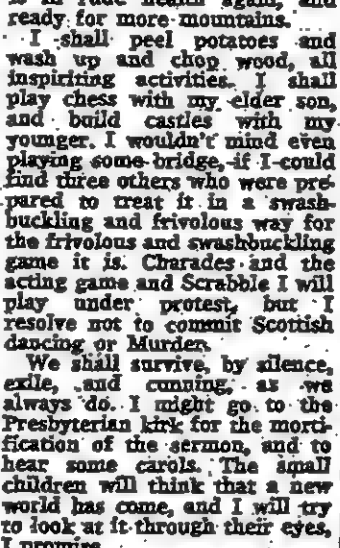
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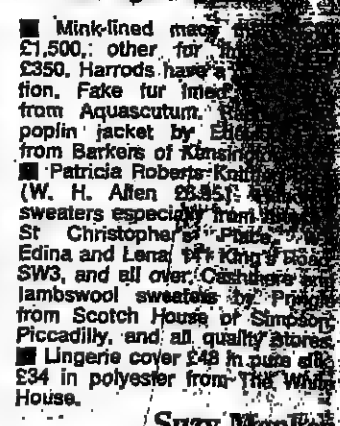
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Travel: Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

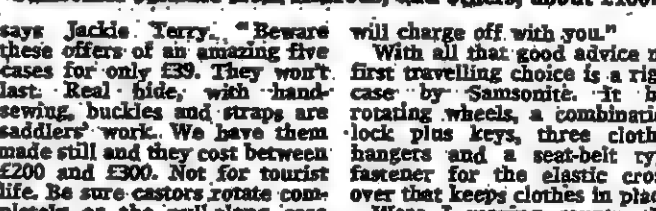


So, when thinking about what bags and baggage I'd like for Christmas it seemed a good idea to talk to Jackie Terry, Harrods' very first woman luggage designer. "The most irritating Luggage design is still largely male-oriented. Men's and women's clothes are different and even from the United States, I have to make a good many changes in luggage for women." Hang-ons (alias suitcases) are those fabric, zip-round, shapes that fold in two and have hangers at the top. "They are very popular, but the overcoats in a plane and taken off as one leaves, saving hours waiting for the carousel. I did find one designed for men, but it was too bulky and had only two hangers."

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Diana Pollock

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Petrol price likely to rise by 3p a gallon

By Clive Cookson
The price of North Sea crude oil is likely to rise from the present \$35 to \$36.50 or \$37 a barrel after Thursday's agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for a new benchmark price for oil. For the motorist, the probable effect will be an extra three or four pence a gallon.

Early next week, the British National Oil Corporation (NOC), which sets the North Sea price, will send telex messages to all companies operating there, suggesting a new figure. It is expected to be \$35.50 or \$36 above the new Opec price of \$34, but below the \$38 which Opec's North African members have been allowed under Thursday's agreement.

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Oil Minister, was concerned yesterday to downplay the move, but Mr Walter Kirsten, managing director of BP Oil International, said in London that he thought the new Opec price was too high to stick under present market conditions. Producing countries might have to offer hidden discounts to sell their oil.

Mr Kirsten, whose company is the trading arm of British Petroleum, said a sensible market price for North Sea crude would be \$34.50, although customers could not expect this if there was a new Opec price. North Sea oil commands a premium because of its convenient location and superior quality.

Although marketing executives of the leading integrated oil companies want to keep the North Sea price as low as possible, because their own products are selling at a loss, they are likely to press for a large increase in the North Sea price.

The stage is therefore set for a sharp debate within the industry when companies receive ENOC's terms, which the corporation may not finally set its new price for some weeks, though it will probably be backdated to this weekend.

The effect at the pump will not become clear until the new North Sea price is agreed. But the companies say that an extra three or four pence a gallon across all refined oil products would be needed if the price rises by \$1.50 or \$2 per barrel.

Saudis cut oil output to hold new prices

From Michael Prest, Geneva, Oct 30
Saudi Arabia said today that it is to cut oil production to 8.5 million barrels a day from 9.3 million, a move designed to underpin the first Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries unified price structure for 24 years. The reduction was widely expected. September production was running at 10 million barrels.

Announcing the decision, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, warned other Opec members that reinstating 8.5 million barrels a day did not mean that the kingdom would refrain from producing more or less than 9 million barrels a day. He said the kingdom was not bound by the agreement reached on Thursday.

This was a reminder that it was the increase in Saudi production to 9.3 million barrels a day which was a major factor in pushing them to accept price cuts as part of the agreement. According to Opec sources, the average weighted Opec price will consequently go up by less than 50 cents a barrel.

Shaikh Yamani also said that the kingdom's \$2 increase to \$34 a barrel was part of the agreement to be retrospective from October 1. Backdating the price was interpreted by industry sources in Geneva as an attempt to dull criticism of the otherwise controversial Saudi profits oil companies might make.

Although Shaikh Yamani and his government clearly want Thursday's agreement on differential prices to be retrospective, the Saudis believe that the 1980s will not see the sharp price fluctuations of the previous decade.

OPEC MEMBERS' PRICES		
	Aug 1981	Present
	(millions of barrels a day)	posted price
Algeria	0.2	40.00
Equatorial Guinea	0.2	37.50
Gabon	0.15	NA
Indonesia	1.6	NA
Iran	1.1	37.36
Kuwait	0.8	34.34
Nigeria	0.7	35.50
Qatar	0.3	40.00
Saudi Arabia	10.12	37.42
UAE	1.5	32.00
Venezuela	1.96	38.00

Estimates: The price is expected to rise from the present \$35 to \$36.50 or \$37 a barrel after Thursday's agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for a new benchmark price for oil. For the motorist, the probable effect will be an extra three or four pence a gallon.

Mobil bids \$3,400m to control Marathon

By Our Financial Staff
Mobil Corporation, one of the world's largest oil groups, yesterday launched a \$3,400m (£2,375m) bid for control of Marathon Oil Company of the United States.

Mr Rawleigh Warner Jr, chairman of Mobil, said in New York that Mobil had started a cash tender offer for the common shares of Marathon Oil at \$85 a share. Dealings in Marathon's shares were halted at \$67.50.

The offer is for the purchase of up to 40 million shares, about two-thirds of the outstanding shares of Marathon, and is conditional on a minimum of 30 million shares, a majority of the total being tendered.

Mr Warner added that if Mobil acquired at least 30 million shares, it would offer to acquire the remaining shares of Marathon as promptly as practicable through a merger, an exchange offer or a cash tender offer.

Mobil's bid ranks among the largest seen in the last two years in the United States, where leading oil companies have been actively buying up other companies.

The date for the offer is midnight New York time November 11. The withdrawal deadline is midnight New York time November 22. The offer will expire at midnight on December 1 unless extended.

Wall Street analysts said Mobil's bid should encounter minor opposition from Marathon and other bidders before the dust has settled.

They said Marathon's "hard" value, based on its large domestic oil and gas reserves, is between \$180 and \$200 a share and that a fair take over price for Marathon would be closer to \$120 to \$140 a share.

To recent months Mobil, the third largest American oil company, was frustrated in its bid to buy Conoco, which was acquired by the Du Pont chemicals group.



National Westminster staff trying to cope with the mass of C & W share applications

Scramble for C & W shares

By Our Financial Staff
The public matched their eagerness with their purses yesterday to let the Cable & Wireless shares offer take off in spectacular style. It is estimated that the £224m flotation was at least five times oversubscribed, so attracting more than £1,000m of public money.

Draper's Gardens tower, the home of National Westminster's new issues department, was the scene of good-humoured queues from 7.30 am onwards. So the bank opened the doors half an hour early to meet the crowd, application forms clutched firmly to their sides.

The queues passed in "gentlemanly" fashion, one observer said. He commended the way the National Westminster had avoided a crush by allowing people to pass by the counters, and through the room, going straight out as the other end.

Not so, apparently, in other recent issues. On the streets of 10.01 am the doors closed and National Westminster says no one was turned away.

Extra staff have been called for the weekend count. By Monday morning National Westminster should be able to announce the results of the Government's largest partial privatization move since it took office.

Last February British Aerospace's £150m flotation met with a cooler reception. The City had been expecting far greater support than the oversubscription by 31 times.

Although the Cable & Wireless shares will not be known until Monday, one of the sponsoring stockbroking firms, which include New & Pim, Cazenove and James Capel, said it alone had together put

in clients' applications for twice the offer. It also supported the £1,000m estimate.

The City believes a premium of between 15p and 25p is a safe guess when dealings start in the shares of 1981 each, next Friday. Some are going for 30p above the price. British Aerospace shares quickly reached a 25p premium to 17.5p when they came to the market.

Kleinwortz Benson, underwriter to the offer which releases 133m shares, or 50 per cent, to the public, says it is still non-committal about the way the shares will be allotted. There is no way of telling, it said, how the preference will go—either to small or to institutional investors. If the pattern of other big issues is followed, however, the proportion is likely to be 80 per cent to the institutions.

Higher oil prices boost for sterling

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent
The prospect of a rise in the price of North Sea oil and a further easing in American interest rates have paved the way for a strong boost on foreign exchange markets yesterday.

Sterling rose 2.8 cents against the dollar to close at \$1.86, a gain of 81 cents since Monday's close and the best level it has seen for almost three weeks.

The pound's recovery this week, bringing in its wake some easing in short-term interest rates, should come as a relief to the Government. For the present at least, the pressure on the clearing banks to push their lending rates back up to 16 per cent seems to have receded.

Interest rates on very short term money fluctuated as the banking system tried to work out how much money was being pushed into share applications for Cable & Wireless, but period rates continued to ease.

The average rate of discount at which Treasury bills were allotted at the weekly tender slipped back from 15.95 to 15.66 per cent.

On Wall Street the Dow Jones industrial average closed 19.60 points up at 812.75, the largest daily gain since January 5. The market was boosted by speculation that interest rates will soon ease.

The Federal Reserve Board approved a reduction in the basic discount rate to 13 per cent from 14 per cent from Monday. No change was made in the 2 per cent surcharge that applies to large frequent borrowers.

The United States basic money supply M1B rose to a seasonally adjusted average of \$434.90m in the week ended October 31 from \$433.30m the previous week.

National Savings rate raised again
By Lorna Bourke
The National Savings Bank investment account rate is to be up by 0.5 per cent to 15 per cent from December 1. The rise comes only a month after the rate was increased from 13 per cent to 14.5 per cent, in take effect from Monday.

National Savings claims that the move is simply to bring the return on the NSB account into line with competing offers, but yesterday's increase is likely to be regarded by the building societies as an interest rate "leapfrogging". The equivalent return from a building society ordinary account is 13.9 per cent.

The flow of cash into the societies fell substantially during the third quarter of 1981, from £1,033m to £888m, and this has been reflected in a drop in the amount of money promised to home buyers.

Net new commitments fell from £3,261m to £2,941m during the quarter, although overall lending for the year is expected to be a record £12,000m.

The National Savings rate increase is seen as part of the Government's plan to raise £3,300m from personal savers by the end of the 1981-82 fiscal year.

Savings war, page 18

Building slump brings UBM's first loss

By Margaret Pagan

UBM, Britain's second largest builders' merchant group, reported its first-ever loss yesterday, highlighting the slump in the construction industry. Only two years ago, the Bristol-based group made pretax profits of £2.7m and last year it made £2.7m.

The group lost £831,000 in the six months to August, compared with pretax profits of £2.3m in the same period last year. But losses were not as great as feared and the market marked the shares 51p above the year's low at 52p. Shareholders, however, which include Equity Capital for Industry with a 10.7 per cent stake, had their half-year dividend halved to 14.2p.

Deterioration in profit margins due to tight pricing by competitors and collapsed demand are blamed for the £831,000 loss in the builders' merchant division. Merchandising, which operates on a day-to-day basis and traditionally provides the bulk of profits, made £2m in the six months. All the group's other activities, covering scaffolding, glass, motor distribution and overseas concerns, remained profitable.

Sales in builders' merchant supplies rose by just £500,000 to £23.8m, reflecting a 3.2 per cent drop in volume over the same period last year, but a 2.2 per cent rise over last year's second half.

Total sales held steady at £19.18m, where trading profits of £696,000 against £3.5m were depressed by losses by the group's engineering group, to Royal Doulton, its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Pearson, earlier, instructed Deloitte Haskins & Sells, its auditors, and D. Freeman, its solicitors, to report on any claims it might have arising from the acquisition. Fairley Holdings forecasts a £5m profit for the year, but a £1m loss for the next two years, seven months after underwriting a £200m two-year loan to the company.

Since April a new management team has taken control and agreements on collaboration have been made with the Three Rivers Computer Corporation of America, Mital of Canada and Fujitsu of Japan. Questions have been raised about the rate of growth at ICL and the level of finance that may be necessary to support the company.

Mr Christopher Laidlaw, ICL's chairman, yesterday commented on press reports that the Japanese authorities had asked for financial guarantees of £100m before implementing the Fujitsu deal. Under the agreement ICL would have access to the latest Japanese microchip technology and would sell his Fujitsu machines in Europe under licence as ICL machines in direct competition with IBM.

One of the means open to ICL to finance its purchase under the Fujitsu collaboration is Japanese Export/Import Bank credit, Mr Laidlaw said. The Department of Industry said meanwhile that so far no "British company" had been financed by the Japanese Exim Bank. It added, however, that it would look into the Japanese loan procedure.

US economy 'rethink'

Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury secretary, said the current United States recession meant that President Reagan's goal of a balanced budget in 1984 was unlikely to be met, and that the Administration was revising its economic outlook.

In the gloomiest Administration comment on prospects for balancing the budget in 1984, Mr Regan said: "It is possible, but not probable."

Mr Regan told the Senate Budget Committee that he believed the recession would be mild and end by next March or April.

But because of the recession, the Administration was revising its economic forecast, and might have been available in the next few days, he said.

Sohio budget of \$60,000m

Standard Oil Co (Ohio) said its capital spending over the next 10 years would total \$55,000m to \$60,000m.

Mr John Miller, the company president, said this included a \$2,800m spending programme for 1982 which was recently approved by the board. The company is 53 per cent owned by British Petroleum.

Jobless rise

The number of job seekers in France rose 14.5 per cent in the year to last March, to 1,593,000 or 6.9 per cent of the labour force.

Paribas in suit threat

The French Government plans to sue certain officials and clients of Paribas, the French private bank listed for nationalization, on charges of illegally transferring gold and currency out of the country, according to M Laurent Fabius, budget minister.

He said bank officials would be charged with transferring 35,000 pieces of gold worth FF200m to Canada in 1980 for a client. The other charges involve transferring currency to Switzerland for several clients, many of whom were aware of the situation.

Meanwhile, Paribas yesterday lost control of Cobepe, its Belgian subsidiary. Its 59.6 per cent shareholding was reduced by about 10 per cent.

Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa holds 2 per cent of the equity of Paribas and not 20 per cent as reported yesterday.

Japan talks on trade surpluses

Japan will consider emergency measures to reduce its huge trade surplus with the United States and Western Europe, Mr Michio Watanabe, the finance minister, said yesterday.

A special cabinet meeting, led by Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, will meet early next month to discuss boosting imports to dampen trade friction.

Sources at the Economic Planning Agency said Japan should make about \$5,000m (£2,700m) of emergency imports. Japan's current account surplus in the financial year ending in March might rise to between \$12,000m and \$13,000m unless action were taken, Mr Watanabe said.

Swiss see no recession

The Swiss economy is not expected to go through a recession in 1982, the institute for economic research of the Federal College of Science and Technology in Zurich said.

The institute said 1982 would be a difficult year, but a considerable easing of the tight labour market is not expected to lead to a sharp reduction of employment.

The stagnation of overall exports seen recently will continue, but there will probably be no real setback, the institute said.

Alexander Kielland refusal

The Norwegian Government has refused to finance a new attempt to right the Alexander L. Kielland, the offshore platform which capsized during a storm in March 1980 with the loss of 123 lives.

The rig, now moored upside-down at Stavanger, is expected to be sunk in a west coast fjord. The bodies of 35 of the victims are believed to be still inside the rig.

The loss of the "floating hotel" rig will cost Norwegian and foreign insurance companies an estimated \$65m. The rig, owned by Stavanger Drilling Co. of Norway, had been operated by Phillips Petroleum in the Ekofisk area of the Norwegian North Sea.

Helikopter Service, the Norwegian company that serves the North Sea oil rigs, has bought 10 helicopters from Aerospatiale of France for about \$60m.

New biotech directorate

The Science and Engineering Research Council is setting up a new biotechnology directorate, in cooperation with the Department of Industry which has Dr Duncan Davies (right) as its chief scientist.

The new directorate will promote research and training in all areas related to biotechnology.

SERC at present spends £10m a year on biotechnology, defined as "the application of biological organisms, systems or processes to manufacturing and service industries". Dr Geoff Potter, head of the new directorate, expects spending to exceed £225m by 1983-84.

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Court backs Krupp steel

The European Court of Justice has ruled in favour of Krupp Stahl in a dispute over steel quotas imposed by the European Commission for the last quarter of 1980.

However, the court upheld the quotas set for the first quarter of 1981.

The court accepted the steel production capacity had increased by 15 per cent in 1980 because of the opening of a new preheating plant. The Commission had estimated this increase at 9.5 per cent.

However, the court rejected the company's argument for higher quotas in the first three months of this year.

AEG-Telefunken hopeful

AEG-Telefunken, the financially-troubled West German electrical group, expects to be able to break even and improve its financial structure this year as a result of help from its banks and the sale of assets to companies that will join it in cooperation deals.

It disclosed today that its consortium of 24 banks was prepared to play a substantial role in restructuring the company and that this willingness, together with the plans to cooperate with other concerns, constituted an important step towards putting the group back on its feet.

Today's meeting between AEG and its bankers was the second in a week. Although the company said that the group was very pleased with the outcome, the brief statement gave no details of the support that the banks would be giving to the company.

EEC ministers meet in London

Finance ministers of the 10 EEC countries met in London yesterday for the start of two days of informal talks. The discussions, under the chairmanship of Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, are likely to touch on reform of the Community budget and the general economic and monetary situation, both in Europe and abroad.

Montedison sale suspension

Montedison has announced the temporary suspension of sales in Italy and abroad of its low-density polyethylene, for which its subsidiary montopolimeri has an annual production capacity of 430,000 tonnes. It did so to help stabilize a market which for many months has been characterized by a foolish waste of resources by the entire plastics manufacturing industry.

Stock Markets

FT Index 468.5 up 0.8
FT Gilts 61.16 up 0.15
FT All Share 286.30 up
Bargains 13,054

Sterling

£1.8600 up 280 pts
Index 88.7 up 0.2
New York: \$1.8805

Dollar

Index 108.8 down 0.6
DM 2.2470 down 240 pts

Gold

\$428 up \$4
New York: \$428.00

Money

3 mth sterling 15 1/2-16 1/2
3 mth Euro \$ 15 1/4-15 1/2
6 mth Euro \$ 15 1/4-15 1/2

PRICE CHANGES

Rises
Amal Metal 10p to 560p
BP 8p to 208p
Raggebridge Bk 8p to 89p
Reckley 10p to 10p
Burgess Prod 6p to 48p
GUS " 7p to 395p
Hinton A 10p to 494p
Lama 10p to 336p
Polly Peck 12p to 382p
Shell Trans 12p to 258p
Tricentrol 12p to 32p
UBM Group 12p to 418p
Union Discount 10p to 250p
Yarrow 10p to 250p

Falls
Aero & Gen 10p to 225p
Allen H & Ross 5p to 265p
Bovater 7p to 192p
Borthwick T 5p to 16p
Davies & Nwan 10p to 85p
Hanson Trust 12p to 268p
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Legal & Gen 10p to 110p
Massey-Fert 8p to 315p
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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

New higher rates of National Insurance Contributions are due to be announced soon and there is much speculation about the size of the increase. With rises in retirement pensions and other social security benefits coming along in a few weeks time and having to be paid for, the likelihood is that next April's increase will be large.

Contributions are related to earnings and this means that higher earners will be hit hardest. What will effect them most is the new top earnings figure on which maximum contributions are calculated. At present this is £200 a week (£10,400 a year).

Maximum contributions could rise from £15.50 a week to £17.50 or £18.

By law the upper earnings figure must be set at between 6% and 7% times the amount of the weekly lower earnings limit, below which no contributions are paid. In turn, this limit corresponds roughly with the rate of a single retirement pension.

Next April the retirement pension will be £29.60 a week. Rounding the figures, a reasonable guess at the new lower limit would be £30 a week, giving a new upper limit of £225 (or £11,700 a year).

National insurance contributions are (for those not in

National Insurance

Large rises on way

approved occupational pension schemes) at present 7.75 per cent of all earnings up to the limit. The present maximum contribution is £15.50 a week. Based on the projected new upper limit it would rise to about £17.50.

Under this arrangement only people at present earning more than £10,400 a year would have to pay more. But it must be debatable whether this alone would bring in enough extra contribution income to meet the continuing heavy demand for benefits. The indications are that the percentage rate is going to have to go up as well.

If this happens, then everyone will be affected. For example, a quarter per cent increase, bringing the contribution rate to eight per cent, would mean small increases for lower earners, too — 25p for someone on £100 a week. At the higher earnings levels,

Savings

More shots in the savings war

Just one month after the last increase National Savings has announced a further rise in the rate paid on its NSB Investment Account, due to go up from 14.5 per cent to 15 per cent from December 1.

The last increase, which comes into effect on Monday, was a much more dramatic readjustment — a 1.5 per cent rise from 13 per cent to 14.5 per cent. National Savings describes yesterday's fairly modest increase as "fine tuning" — or more realistically an attempt to keep just ahead of the building societies.

Non-taxpayers — children and the elderly — will benefit most from these new higher rates, those who pay little or no tax will find that only the money funds, Tyndall and Simco, and local authority "yearling" bonds, which this week offered over 16 per cent, can begin to compete.

Rarely a day goes by without some change on the money market, from the array of products all competing for personal savers' cash is confusing.

For basic taxpayers, index-linked certificates still look the best bet, so long as you don't mind having your money tied up for at least a year — the minimum period needed to earn the index-linked increases.

But if you want money readily available, the building societies still look the most attractive home for cash. Although the new recommended rate is only 9.75 per cent net of basic rate tax, compared with an equivalent of 10.5 per cent after tax from the NSB investment account, most societies are offering extra interest accounts which come in all shapes and sizes. The choice is quite bewildering.

Rates all go up from Monday and it is worth shopping around to see what's on offer. Many smaller societies pay rates above the Building Societies Association recommended rate for money on ordinary accounts. Add to this the higher returns from "extra interest" accounts and the returns from some societies are quite remarkable.

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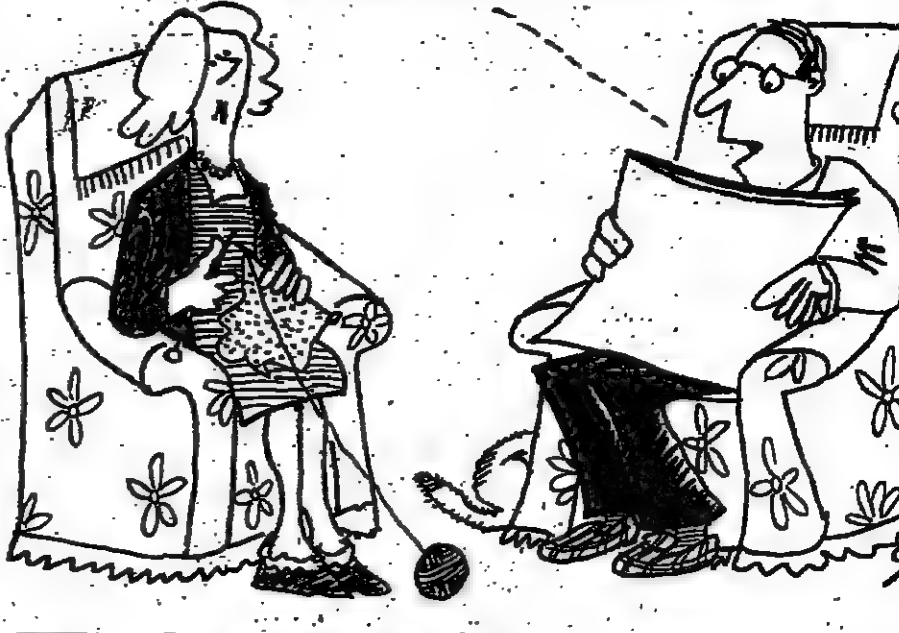
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GOODNESS! HOW TIME FLIES... IT'S TIME TO CHANGE OUR BUILDING SOCIETY AGAIN...



actions by post, it is difficult to see why anyone who is purely a saver, puts his money with the larger societies.

The smaller societies do, of course, charge extra for their home loans as if you are likely to want a mortgage, it pays to build up a track record with one of the larger societies which do not charge higher rates.

Investors' reservations about putting money into smaller societies usually hinge on security. But it is inconceivable that the Building Societies Association would let a small society go under — and in any case, they are all closely monitored by the Registrar of Friendly Societies.

Extra interest accounts which place some constraints on withdrawals are sprouting like mushrooms and there is a wide range to choose from. Be sure to ask about withdrawal penalties as these can sometimes be stiff. And with some of the accounts it is impossible to withdraw any money at all without suffering some loss of interest.

It is arguable that the advertising put out by some of these societies is less than 100 per cent honest, as the rate advertised may be impossible to achieve if you make any withdrawals at all. Perhaps the Office of Fair Trading might like to have a look at some of these interest rate claims. In the meantime, investors should check the terms of these extra interest accounts carefully. Most have

Building societies paying more than the BSA recommended rate on ordinary accounts.

Society	Interest rate	Society	Interest rate
Argyle	10.35	New Cross	10.75-11.5*
Bolton	10.25	Paddington	10.75
Harpurden	10.25	Peckham Mutual	10.75
Hendon	10.25	Porthsmouth	10.5
Herne Bay	10.25	Sussex Mutual	10.25
London Permanent	10.5	Teachers	10.25
Malchester	10.25	Wessex	10.75
Mornington	10.7		

* Depending on amount invested.

Building society best buys — extra interest accounts*

Society	1 month's notice	Interest rate	Society	3 months' notice	Interest rate
Bolton	11		Property Owners	11.05	
Chatham Reliance	11		Sussex County	11	
Chelsea	10.25			6 months' notice	
Peckham Mutual	11		Society	Interest rate	
Town & Country	10.75				
	3 months' notice				
Citizens Regency	11.5		Citizens Regency	11.3	
City & Metropolitan	11		City & Metropolitan	11.5	
Greenwich	11.25		Guardian	11.75	
Hemel Hempstead	11		Hendon	11.5	
Hendon	11.25		Holmesdale Benefit	11.75	
Hornsea	11.25		Lambeth	11.75	
London Permanent	11		London Permanent	11.5	
Progressive	11		Porthsmouth	11.5	
			Property Owners	11.75	
			Ramsbury	11.25	

Further information on interest rates and terms of building society investments is available from the Building Societies Association, 2 Darnley Street, London, EC4A 3DF (Tel 01-236 0855).

a minimum investment of £500, per cent paid annually, if you are not withdrawing the interest.

The tables show some of the best returns available on both ordinary accounts and extra interest schemes.

Lorna Bourke

In brief

Britannia first in market

Even investment is subject to the vagaries of fashion and what is attracting attention this month is new entrants. Fund managers Britannia have seized the opportunity offered by this trend and come up with the first unit trust investing solely in shares quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market — companies not yet big enough to have a full stock exchange quotation.

The fund will probably perform well, if for no other reason than that with their new-found freedom to invest in USM shares, other unit trusts will also be moving into this sector and forcing share prices.

These are the shares of the future — or not, as the case may be. It is certainly a fund for widows and orphans. Britannia recommends that no one invests more than 10 per cent of their portfolio in such a potentially volatile fund. The minimum investment is £1,000.

The fund will always be at least 10 per cent in cash and will also have the facility to invest in unquoted shares abroad, probably many of them in the United States.

Disqualified drivers

Anyone who is dependent on being mobile for a livelihood — a doctor, salesman and the like — should think seriously about insurance cover in case they are disqualified from driving.

St Christopher, the motor insurance specialists, promise cover of up to £4,200 a year for alternative transport arrangements. The annual premium is £48 for a regular mileage plan and £64 a year for anyone who comes into the high mileage category — normally allowable as a business expense.

Respective maximum benefits are £3,000 and £4,200 a year. The policy covers disqualification through endorsement or accumulation of penalty points (under the new 1981 Transport Act provisions) and for drink-driving convictions provided that the motorist's breathalysing is not more than double the legal limit.

There is also cover if a car is stolen or damaged in an accident or if the motorist is disabled through a motor accident.

Spa refresher

Leamington Spa is one of the few building societies to offer a fixed rate of return to investors — its current 5 per cent Bond Account pays a fixed rate of 11.5 per cent, net of basic rate tax, for a one-year investment. A basic rate taxpayer would need to earn 16.4 per cent before tax to obtain an equivalent return.

Sally White

Salerooms and Antiques

are featured every

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Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank 15.0%

Barclays 15.0%

BCCI 16.0%

Consolidated Crds. 16.0%

C. Hoare & Co. 15.0%

Lloyds Bank 15.0%

Midland Bank 15.0%

Nat Westminister 15.0%

TSB 15.0%

Williams and Glyn's 15.0%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £25,000-£50,000 14 day £50,000-£100,000 15.0%

Sally White

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Loyal Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81

High Low Company Price Change Gross Yield P/E Ratio

114 180 ABI Ridge 10% CULS 108 1 10.0 9.3 11.5

76 39 Airspring Group 57 1 4.7 7.0 10.6 11.5

52 21 Armitage & Rhodes 43 1 4.0 10.0 3.6 8.1

200 924 Bardon Hill 192 1 9.7 5.1 9.3 11.1

104 88 Deborah Services 97 1 2.5 5.7 4.8 11.1

126 88 Frank Horsall 116 1 4.4 5.5 10.5 12.2

110 39 Frederick Parker 59 1 2.7 2.8 25.7 4.1

110 49 George Blair 49 1 2.7 2.8 25.7 4.1

102 93 IPC 96 1 7.3 7.6 6.9 10.7

113 59 Jackson Group 98 1 7.0 7.1 3.1 2.0

130 103 James Burroughs 103 1 8.7 6.1 7.9 8.9

334 244 Robert Jenkins 290 1 3.3 10.8 4.0 40.2

59 50 Scrutons "A" 54 1 5.3 9.8 8.3 7.9

224 187 Torley Limited 187 1 15.1 8.1 7.2 12.1

23 4 Twinkl Ord 14 1 15.0 19.5 1.1 1.1

56 33 Twinkl Holdings 34 1 3.0 8.6 6.1 10.6

103 81 Walker Alexander 84 1 6.4 7.6 5.5 10.5

263 181 W. S. Yates 225 1 13.1 5.7 4.3 11.5

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76 39 Airspring Group 57 1 4.7 7.0 10.6 11.5

52 21 Armitage & Rhodes 43 1 4.0 10.0 3.6 8.1

Capital transfer tax

A way to soften the blow

Handing over large sums to the tax man is something to be avoided if at all possible. A new and imaginative scheme from Vanbrugh, the people who brought you "loan-backs", is a neat device for avoiding the worst effects of capital transfer tax — without losing control of your original capital.

The problem with giving away assets to avoid tax is that you immediately incur a CTT liability and you lose control of both the capital and the income from that capital.

Vanbrugh's Inheritance Trust goes some way towards avoiding this problem by means of a trust combined with a single premium life assurance policy.

The details of how it works are complex but the net effect is that assets can be transferred into the Trust, free of CTT. Any capital gain on these assets can then be handed on to the next generation, or other named beneficiaries, including the settlor, free of Capital transfer tax.

The main drawback of the Inheritance Trust is that it does not help those whose main asset is the family home, or other property.

The scheme could, however, be useful in certain circumstances notably where there is a fairly elderly person who has substantial free assets to shelter from CTT.

Why has not anyone thought of this before? The answer is that Vanbrugh's scheme takes advantage of legislation introduced only last April in the 1981 Finance Act.

For those of a technical turn of mind, here is how the scheme works. A trust is set up by the person with the assets to transfer (the settlor). The settlor then makes a loan to the trust of the assets to be sheltered from CTT. This can be shares, bank deposits, building society investments and the like — but not property.

These assets are sold and the money invested in a Vanbrugh single premium bond — for larger sums several bonds would be bought. If the settlor requires income, he or she can withdraw up to 5 per cent a year of the original settlement loan.

The capital gains and income on the single premium bond roll up without incurring any liability to income

tax and can be gifted to any of the named beneficiaries of the trust, free of CTT.

The investor retains control of the original capital but at any time the loan can be recalled — again without incurring any CTT liability.

The drawback is that with inflation it might well prove impossible to live on an income of 5 per cent out of the original capital and there are complications if the investor needs an income higher than this.

It is worth while taking avoiding action on CTT — it starts at a relatively low figure of £50,000 so you do not have to be immensely rich to suffer. Transfers between husband and wife are exempt but a single person leaving an estate of £150,000 might be alarmed to learn that £4,500 of this goes straight to the tax man as capital transfer tax.

But anyone contemplating the Vanbrugh Inheritance Trust must consult their accountant before going ahead. It is not a simple scheme and there could be unforeseen complications if the details are not properly explained to the investor.

LB

Our BBC Moneybox selections for 1982

Winners 1979, runners up 1980, winners 1981

For the third successive year Framlington have been winners or runners-up in the BBC Moneybox unit trust managers' competition.

For 1982 we have again entered American & General Fund and International Growth Fund. We now offer lump sum investments or a monthly savings plan in either.

International Growth Fund is our full-blooded capital growth trust investing world-wide. It can switch between markets at will. At present 66% is in the USA, 15% in the UK, 17% in the Far East. Since launch in 1976 the price of units is up 351% compared with 134% for the FT All-Share Index.

On 27 October the offer price was 75.2p xd (accumulation units, 81.4p). The estimated gross yield was 1.17%. Distributions are on June 15 and Dec 15.

American & General Fund also goes for out-and-out capital growth, but 100% from North America. Since its launch in 1979 units are up 100% compared with 37% for the FT All-Share (and 19% for the equivalent US Index, the S&P Comp, adjusted for currency changes).

On 27 October the offer price was 99.8p (accumulation units, 99.8p). The estimated gross yield was 1.5%. The annual distribution is on Oct 15.

Units can be bought using the coupon (minimum £700) or by telephone on 01-628 5181 every day the Stock Exchange is open. The minimum holding is 600 units.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Applications are acknowledged. Certificates are sent within 42 days by the registrars, Lloyds Bank Limited.

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ

I wish to invest the sum of £ (minimum £700). (For accumulation units, tick here ☐)

I enclose my cheque made payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited.

I wish to start a Savings Plan for £ per month (minimum £10). I enclose my cheque for £ for the first contribution. (This can be a larger amount than your monthly payment.)

I am over 18. My choice of fund is FRAMLINGTON.

Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss)

Full first names

Address

Signature

Date

(Joint applicants should all sign and give details separately)

Investment for a child should be designated with an initial:

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Foreign currencies

It pays to study form

Speculating in currencies seems to have a trend for investors rather similar to putting a bet on the second favourite in the 3.30 at Sandown.

If you place your money on "available" at 24 hours notice) or several days notice) you can have a flutter without too much danger of getting locked in to a currency that has taken a nose dive. But like horses or dogs its worth studying form.

Dollar rates — both for the currency and interest rates — look as though they are on an upward track again. While attention here has been focused on our Government's financial problems, the United States Government announced on Thursday the tactics for its massive funding for the next quarter.

Market reaction shows that fund managers believe Mr Reagan may have to pay a little more dearly for it than the present yields. So watch out for bargains in dollars.

Chancellors round the world must be shuddering at the prospect for interest rates presented by such a situation. The United States Government needs to raise \$35,500m for the next quarter, and the funding could cause another interest rate war.

Punishment could be taken in London, Bonn, Zurich and Tokyo, unless domestic interest rates compete.

Opinion is split on whether the credit crunch will push United States interest rates back into the mid-20 per cent. If the recession developing in the United States cuts back demand for day-to-day money from consumers and companies then a more moderate rise from the present 14-16 per cent level could result.

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE

FINANCIAL NEWS



Willie Robertson this week

Pope to pop stars — Willie Robertson insures them all

Mrs Thatcher may be short of fans at the moment but there are several Lloyd's underwriters who would be less than entertained if she were to be toppled in a Downing Street coup.

Insurance broker, Willie Robertson recently had the unusual task of insuring against this and other disasters that might befall the Prime Minister or her husband on behalf of the producers of *Anyone for Denis* in his hilarious theatrical life in the Thatcher household based on Private Eye's "Dear Bill" column.

Anyone for Denis has been running to packed audiences at the Whitehall Theatre, London since early summer. The producers wanted to insure against any eventuality, Mrs Thatcher's death, or a snap general election that would mean the play would have to be withdrawn. They went to Mr Robertson who over the last 15 years has cast himself as a profitable and amusing if at times rather hair-raising career as insurance broker extraordinary to the entertainment industry.

In his time he has been asked to insure some bizarre risks. One British pop group was about to start a tour of Yugoslavia when President Tito fell seriously ill. If Tito died the whole country would have gone in to mourning, the concert tour would have been cancelled and the group would have lost money. Mr Robertson fixed the cover, the group completed its tour and Tito died just a few days after they had finished.

In 1968 Mr Robertson was working at Lloyd's when two Old Harrovian friends of his who managed King Crimson, one of the groups which emerged in the late sixties, found they could not find anyone to insure the group's instruments. "Insurers were suspicious of the music business. Lloyd's thought it was difficult. Drink and drugs were a very grey area too. The musicians did not know about insurance but of course

it was at this time they began to use all sorts of complicated and expensive gear."

Since then Mr Robertson has handled the insurance needs of most big British pop groups and their promoters, placing around £2m of premiums on the London market each year.

His career has had its nerve-racking moments. A few years ago he became involved in a promotion for the Pink Floyd which featured a large inflatable pink pig harnessing a Battering Ram. He was insuring the pig. However the balloon animal slipped its moorings and took off for the Kent coast oblivious of passing aircraft. When you think of it it could have been a huge disaster," he says. It landed safely in the country — in a pig farm.

Pink Floyd concerts now feature the marginally more insurable gimmick of a foot model aircraft which pushes towards the audience at the start of the show at 40 miles an hour.

Concert tours, even those without such dramatic curtain-raisers, are a big insurance proposition. Mr Robertson arranges cover for rock performers and promoters on everything from their instruments to non-performance fees if for any reason beyond their control the show or the star is unable to go on.

He arranged the multi-million dollar package that covers the Rolling Stones' present 56-date marathon tour of the United States. "Touché," he says, "everything is going all right although the stage was blown away at their opening concert in Buffalo."

Perhaps his most unusual brief was to arrange non-appearance insurance for Pope John Paul II's visit to the United Kingdom next May. "In insurance terms, it is really just the same as a rock 'n' roll concert. He is scheduled to give six open-air masses in various parts of the country. If he is unable to come the organizers stand to

lose a great deal of money. It is like the royal wedding. There will be lots of things specially manufactured for the occasion, mementoes that will be pretty near worthless if the event does not take place."

Mr Robertson has arranged the cover for the tour organizers, Mark McCormack's International Management Group. The insurance was taken out after the attempt on the Pope's life but before his latest operation. The fact that there are uncertainties about whether the Pope can now manage the entire schedule underlines the risks of insuring leading personalities and performers.

"We have seen some serious losses this year," says Mr Robertson. Richard Burton collapsed on stage during the revival of *Camelot* and had to withdraw from the show because of serious illness. The producers had recourse to their insurance policy which covered the loss of expected box office takings following Burton's departure. But despite some setbacks Mr Robertson still holds that the music and entertainment industry, however unstable or eccentric the image, is no worse a risk than anything else. "Most of my clients are professionals who have been around for a long time. They know how much is at stake. Most musicians for instance are self-made men who look after their instruments and equipment."

And despite the fact that the music industry is so strong in the United States, it is the London market that most easily entertains its insurance business. "The American market blows hot and cold on this sort of business. Lloyd's just soldiers on somehow. It will accept risks that other markets will not. I believe there is a price for everything however bizarre."

Margaret Drummond

Two more apply for USM quotes

By Drew Johnston

Two more companies, one an electronics equipment manufacturer, the other a sheet metal fabricator, are the latest to apply for quotation on the United Securities Market.

Stockbrokers Hoare, Govett are placing 1.31m ordinary shares of 15p at 90p per share on behalf of the Feedback Group, an East-Sussex company which manufactures and markets electronic, electrical and microprocessor-based equipment.

Sheet metal fabricators VW is also about to have 1.16m of its ordinary shares placed by its merchant bank, Gray Dawes, again through brokers Hoare, Govett.

The VW shares, placing is made up of 474,280 ordinary shares which are being sold by existing shareholders and the remainder from a new issue. At a placing price of 62p per share, Gray Dawes says the market capitalization of the company amounts to £298m and £341m after taking into account the shares to be issued.

The bankers say VW is coming to the market on a multiple of 4.96 times the current pre-tax profits with an indicated annual gross dividend yield of 8.84 per cent. The chairman of the company, Mr Roy Stephens, and his co-directors will retain a direct interest of 60.2 per cent of the share capital.

In the case of the Feedback Group, a proportion of the shares being placed will be available to the public through the market and dealings are expected to begin on November 5.

Feedback's bankers, Arbuthnot Latham, say the company has recorded unaudited pre-tax profits for the six months ended September 30 that are 20 per cent greater than the corresponding period last year at £381,000.

The directors' forecast is that pre-tax profits for the year will be a minimum of £375,000.

Higher sales fail to lift Hepworth

J. Hepworth rang up much more money at the tills last year, but still ended up with profits down on the previous 12 months.

Turnover was up by more than £13.7m at almost £75.7m, but pre-tax profits fell from £5.7m to a shade over £4m.

Mr Jeffrey Rowley, managing director, explained: "Turnover benefited from a number of acquisitions, but we are still having difficulties on the High Street. In menswear, people are buying casual garments rather than £80 to £100 suits."

On the stock market Hepworth shares eased 2p to 90p, although interest in the stock remains keen, reflecting the substantial stake taken in the company by British Land, which was increased earlier this week. The results show that Hepworth, whose chairman is Mr



Mr Robert Chadwick, chairman of J. Hepworth

Robert Chadwick, had written off just over £400,000 after the closure of its Sunderland factory and possible further branch closures. Profits on property

sales during the year were £649,000.

Hepworth's sales have been bolstered by the acquisition of the Turner shoe shop chain and the Kendall's women's wear business. But profits remain elusive while the recession remains its grip.

"I do not suppose the prices of our menswear has risen more than 2 or 3 per cent in the last year, but customers still remain very price conscious," Mr Rowley said. "However, we are experiencing some small signs of a pick-up, although very much depends on what happens at Christmas."

In the meantime, Hepworth will continue its policy of pruning uneconomic branches. It disposed of 20 stores last year, leaving a total of 600 outlets.

Shareholders collect a final dividend of 3.8p a share gross making a total of 5.4p, the same as last time.

Howard & Wyndham cuts loss by £600,000

By Our Financial Staff

The slimmed down Howard & Wyndham group—consisting of W. H. Allen, the publishers, and Ciro the jewellers—has reduced its losses in the first half from £969,000 to £377,000.

Shareholders, however, since again fail to collect a dividend, while on the stock market the shares remained unchanged at 4p.

Turnover fell from £5.2m to £4.5m. Interest charges during the trading spell were reduced from £236,000 to £187,000. The loss per share was 6p compared with 14.5p before.

The publishing business has undergone a considerable change with the disposal of the Made Simple educational book stocks and the Brown Watson children's book division, leaving sales of the publishing side well down.

However, the board points out that sales of the continuing activities of W. H. Allen, and the Ciro jewellery side, are higher this year than in the same period in 1980.

The jewellery business, however, remains subject to seasonal trading trends so that losses in the first half usually give way to a profitable second half. The indications are that this pattern should be repeated in the second six months.

For the 18 months to December 31, net losses were £1.7m.

Airline group's losses increase

Davies & Newman, the Dan-Air airline and shipbroking group, yesterday reported that the six months results showed a pre-tax deficit of £1.99m compared with a loss of £716,000 at the same stage last year.

The first half is always a loss-making one for the group because of the seasonal nature of Dan-Air's charter business.

"The airline is experiencing all the adverse factors common to the industry at the present time," Mr Frederick Newman, chairman, said.

Caparo Industries returns to dividends

Caparo Industries, formerly L. K. Industrial Investments, which took over Central Manufacturing and Trading in April, is paying a first-half dividend of 0.71p gross—the first since the 1979 interim. In the first half of 1981, Caparo made a pre-tax profit of £115,000, compared with a loss of £23,000 in the first half of 1980 and a loss of £250,000 for the whole of that year.

Mr Swraj Paul, the chairman, forecasts a continued improvement in profitability and details the possibilities for a further reduction in borrowings. A final dividend similar to the interim now declared is predicted.

Caparo is 50 per cent owned by Mr Paul's private company, Caparo Group. It was acquired by Caparo Group in July 1980.

Issue flops

The rights issue by F. Austin (Leyton) of partly convertible preference shares, on a one-for-24 basis, has been taken up for only 34,323 shares, just 6.98 per cent of the issue. The balance has been taken up by the ICF.

This balance includes the allotment of 200,573 shares to some directors and their families who

agreed to renounce their entitlement in favour of the ICF.

Solex (UK)

In the first half of 1981, the pre-tax loss of Solex (UK), formerly Zenith Carburettor, fell slightly to £450,000, compared with a pre-tax loss of £474,000 in the first half of 1980. The loss was after charging depreciation, down from £176,000 to £160,000, crediting exceptional items of £30,000—against a £561,000 debit in 1980—and taking in income from trade investments, etc., which was up from £201,000 to £210,000. There is no tax charge this time, compared with a £235,000 credit in 1980. Turnover fell from £7.25m to £5.16m.

Letraset-Esselte

Esselte now holds, or has received, acceptances equivalent to 92 per cent of Letraset's ordinary shares. The offers are unconditional and remain open.

Offer for Mowat

Manchester stockbrokers John Siddall and Son are to make an offer for all the 1m ordinary shares in Wm Mowat and Sons, £21m.

10%

From Dec 1st.

The big, simple way to save with a National Savings Bank Investment Account.

On December 1st, the interest rate for all National Savings Bank Investment Account holders goes up to 15% p.a., and matches the highest rate we have ever paid. To benefit from the new rate as soon as it is introduced, you must invest by November 30th.

An NSB Investment Account gives you big interest rates — paid in full.

Start right now. It's quick and simple.

Simple to start

Just go to your post office, fill in a simple form and make your deposit. Start with as little as £1 — cash or cheque. Cheques made payable to you are also acceptable as a deposit.

Every pound you invest earns interest from the first of the month following the deposit, and for every full calendar month it remains invested. And you can withdraw it at one month's notice.

The maximum you can invest is £200,000.

Is the interest paid in full?

Yes. Some investments pay interest "tax paid," with income tax already deducted. Even if you are not liable to pay tax, it's not always possible to get it back. Our interest, though taxable, is paid in full.

This is a significant benefit to private investors who don't pay tax — children as well as adults — and tax-exempt organisations.

Now open to commercial investors

Registered companies and other corporate bodies are also eligible to open an Investment Account. Applications should be made direct to the National Savings Bank, SOC/COM Glasgow G58 1SB. No money should be sent at this stage.

National Savings

Full details are available in a leaflet you'll find at any post office.

Airing policyholders' grievances

Anyone with a complaint against a life insurance company will find it hard to get an independent investigation. The only course of action is to complain to the company concerned or perhaps take expensive legal action.

But the Life Offices Association is now considering the possibility of setting up a separate independent complaints system and has instructed a working party to look at the handling of complaints.

Consumers with grievances about general insurance — household, motor, travel and the like — can air them before an independent Insurance Ombudsman, James Haswell, but he is not able to deal with complaints against all insurers.

Mr Haswell's bureau is open to all insurance groups.

New funds

Anyone fortunate, or unfortunate, enough to be paying income tax at 50 per cent or

more should take a look at the two new funds, Electra and Basilidon, which take advantage for the new tax relief allowable for money put up for venture capital enterprises. The Electra offer closes on November 4 so there is not much time to lose. Since the money is effectively locked up for five years, this should be money you can manage without. Tax relief at your highest rate is available on up to £10,000 invested in such schemes each year.

Finding where to get the best return on your savings often can be a problem. From this week on, money market best buys will highlight what is available in the savings market, with basic terms and conditions. Further details are obtainable from the relevant organizations.

Your money market best buys

Banks
Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — Lloyd's, 13.5 per cent; Nat West, Midland, 8 per cent; 14 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Fixed-term deposits — 1 month, 14 per cent; 3 months, 14 per cent; 6 months, 15 per cent; 12 months, 15 per cent. For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term.

Money Funds
Simco 7-day fund, 15.44 per cent; UDT Average Deposit Fund, 16.33 per cent; Tyndall 7-day fund, 15.5 per cent; Simco dollar fund, 13.5 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Simco (01-225 0223), Tyndall (01-0272 32241), UDT (scheme now closed to new investment).

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 5 p.c., first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Accounts — 14.5 p.c. interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £20,000.
*15 p.c. from December 1.

National Savings Certificates — 2nd Issue
Returns totally free of all taxes, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five year term of 10.5 p.c. maximum investment £5,000, on sale from November 9.

National Savings Index-Linked Certificates
Maximum investment, £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index, 4 p.c. bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in November 1976, £191.43 including 4 p.c. bonus.

Building Societies
Ordinary share accounts — 9.75 p.c. Term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 p.c. and 2 p.c. over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 p.c. over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax, not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Foreign Currency Deposits
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

Call 7-days notice

	11% p.c.	11% p.c.
US dollar	11% p.c.	11% p.c.
Yen	2% p.c.	3 p.c.
D. Mark	7% p.c.	8 p.c.
French Franc	11% p.c.	11% p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 16% p.c. paid net of basic rate tax (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local Authority Town Hall Bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offer: 1-3 years, Knowsley, 14% p.c. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-328 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24988.

Finance for Industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% p.c.; 5-6 years, 13% p.c.; 7 years, 13% p.c.; 8-9 years, 14 p.c.; 10 years, 14 p.c. Further information from FFI, 91 Watford Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance House Deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 15% p.c.; 3 months, 15% p.c.; 6 months, 15% p.c.; 12 months, 15% p.c.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stockmarkets

Saudi cut boosts oils

Oils bubbled back to life yesterday after the announcement from Saudi Arabia that it intended to cut production by 1.5 million barrels a day to 8.5 million.

The cut, although proved to be a temporary measure, proved to be a temporary measure, a flurry of activity was centred on the market where BP rose 8p to 260, Shell 18p to 382p, Ultramar 10p to 49p, Lasso 10p to 250p, and Shell 10p to 250p.

Elsewhere in equities activity was down a trifle as the start of the new business day. The important business of the week, the application of the new rules, was expected to be completed by Friday and predicted that stock will be more than five times overvalued at between 15p and 30p.

Meanwhile, the prospects of a head-on collision at RE and the rejection by Ford workers of their pay offer continued to cast a shadow. The FT Index closed 0.3 up at 463.5—a rise on the week of 6.6.

Further easing of United States prime rates resulted in a more confident performance

of sterling with gilt quick to take the opportunity of extending their recent recovery.

Prices in London were up as much as 2½ while shorts managed improvements of 1½. The absence of a new short tap was also a cause for celebration.

ICI continued to make headway on Thursday's better than expected third quarter profits closing 4p higher at 720p, after

Word is that Lorch will bid for

Tosco Kemsley judging by the

level of call options in both

recently. Observers say the bid

makes sense for Lorch, whose

trading side is comparable with

Tosco's. Next week Tosco's half

year profits are expected to

close at 50 per cent fall to

£2.2m. Tosco added 1p to 72p

yesterday.

274p. The annual review added

4p to Glaxo at 410p, but Blue

Circle Industries shed 2p to

438p still reflecting the recent

loss of 1,000 jobs.

Brokers Cazenove were busy

making a vendor placing of 12m

shares at 43p in Mitchell Cotts

to finance the minority bid of

its South African interests. The

price closed unchanged at 47p.

In the meantime, about

350,000 shares in R. Fagarty

were sold in the market with

out too much trouble and the

price was unchanged at 98p.

Rose rose 1p to 130p after

giving the thumbs up to share-

holders for Thomas Tilling's

296m bid. But the first bidder,

Hanson Trust, fell 13p to 260p.

Davies & Newman plunged

10p to 85p up by the trading

losses incurred by its Den Air

subsidiary and S Miller fell 21p

to 94p for a similar reason.

Polly Peck celebrated a return

to profits with a 12p rise at

336p with its stabilisation

Cornell Dresses 2p stronger at

148p after diversification

details. Wearwell, the third

member of the trio, added 3p

to 68p in sympathy.

Less than expected losses put

51p on URM Group at 52p with

satisfactory trading news help-

ing Capare 5p to 30p.

Equity turnover on October

23 was £58.495m (8,778 bar-

gains). Active stocks yesterday,

according to the Exchange

Telegraph, were Shell, Lasso,

MP, Ultramar, Prudential, R.

control, Rauli, URM, Hanson

Trust and Hambro Life.

Traded options: Demand

picked up with total contracts

reaching 1,329 with Lorch

active on 775 calls.

Traditional options saw tails

in Burmah on 5p, Charterhall

on 5p, Remyer on 6p, Rauli

Kemsley on 6p and NCC.

No profits bonus for employees of Wedd Durlacher

Wedd Durlacher Mordant, one of the stock market's big five jobbing firms, has passed the profits-related bonus for employees for the first six months of this year.

The bonuses are paid from profits after all costs are met and it is understood Wedd did not make enough in the first six months of this year to cover costs and pay the bonus.

Rumours that the jobbing firm lost £1m in the first half are said to be wide of the mark, but the passing of the bonus scheme underlines the severe trading difficulties faced by the jobbers in a stock market where volatile price movements have disguised this trading.

Brooke Bond Liebig

Terms have been agreed between Brooke Bond Liebig and the Pillsbury Company of Minneapolis by which Pillsbury's German subsidiary will take over Liebig's Freeport, a Brooke Bond Liebig subsidiary.

The price has been agreed at about £2m.

Wearwell and Polly Peck up sharply

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Asil Nadir yesterday unveiled sharply higher profits for his clothing maker and whole-sale group Wearwell and a return to profits for Polly Peck Holdings, the dress company he took over last year.

For the 69 weeks to the end of August, Wearwell's turnover doubled to £21.3m and pretax profits rose from £1.6m to £4m. Mr Nadir is paying a 40 per cent increased gross total dividend of 5p. The shares touched 70p at one point before closing 3p up on the day at 68p.

Mr Nadir says present trading conditions are buoyant and demand for the company's products remains high.

He says the company has expanded and modernized production facilities and strengthened its management to cope with increased demand and says this could be another record year for the group.

A revaluation of properties has shown a £5.4m surplus over

book value. The group has also credited a £1m profit on the sale of its site at Commercial Road in East London below the line, increasing retained profits from £977,000 to £3.8m.

Meanwhile Polly Peck Holdings has now moved into the black after two years of losses. On turnover up from £1m to £5.48m, Mr Nadir reports a profit of £2.1m against a loss last time of £30,500. He is paying a final gross dividend of 7.142p, making the year's pay-out 7.422p.

No contribution has been included from Cornell Dresses, which became a 55 per cent-owned subsidiary of Polly Peck in January. Last year Cornell lost £135,000.

Mr Nadir is thinking of giving the Cornell dress concern a Cyprus-based poultry subsidiary for Middle Eastern markets. He says sales are also being carried out in other agricultural areas which should be completed in two months.

Commodities

COPPER was very steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

WHEAT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

BARLEY was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

RYE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

MAIZE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SUGAR was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

COFFEE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

TEA was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

CLOVE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PEPPER was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SPICES were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

FRUIT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

VEGETABLES were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

MEAT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

FISH was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

POULTRY was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

EGGS were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

GRAIN was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SEEDS were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

LIQUORS were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

WINE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

BEER was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SOFT DRINKS were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

TOBACCO was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

TEXTILES were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

LEATHER was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PAINTS were steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

GLASS was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PAPER was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PLASTIC was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

ROPE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

WIRE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

STEEL was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

IRON was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

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TIN was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SILVER was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

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ROSEMARY was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

THYME was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

OREGANO was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

BASIL was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PARSLEY was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

DILL was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

CORRILL was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

CELERY was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

CARROT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

POTATO was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

ONION was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

LEGGHORN was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

COCK was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

DUCK was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

GOOSE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SWAN was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PEACOCK was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

PARROT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

MACAW was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

HOOPNIGHT was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

SCARLET was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

CRACKLE was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

FLAME was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

GLASS was steady. Afternoon prices were: London, 2000-2000; New York, 2000-2000; Tokyo, 2000-2000.

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Stock Exchange Prices

Oils firm after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct. 26; Dealings End, Nov. 6. \$ Contango Day, Nov. 9. Settlement Day, Nov. 16.
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

70,000 in race to miss the last post

By Michael Coleman

It will be a weekend fraught with tension for the 70,000 men and women eager to run in the Gillette London Marathon next May 9. A foot put wrong in the run-up to the neighbourhood pillar box or inability to fill in the entry form correctly will bar them from the race.

Only 14,000 are being allowed to toe the line in Greenwich Park in six months' time for the advance on London—double the number of this year's starters—and 2,000 of these will be from overseas. Hence the anxiety not to be among the unlucky 58,000.

Entry forms have been going out for months from County Hall but with the strictest embargo on their return: no entry may arrive back bearing a postmark earlier than November 2, that is Monday.

Thousands of would-be marathoners will be hovering with their 4in by 9in envelopes (the size is obligatory to avoid fouling up the computer) outside post boxes today, waiting until after the last collection.

For the first 8,000 posted—judged from time and date of posting and not from delivery—will be admitted to the race. The remaining 4,000 will be picked by a lottery, commencing on Thursday at County Hall.

In a letter to all aspirants, Chris Brasher, race director, says: "You will help us greatly by entering exactly as instructed and by refraining from writing or telephoning us. And please no stories about the baby/dog/cat eating your entry form. This year we came to the conclusion that Britain's babies had forsaken their normal diet and taken exclusively to a liking for marathon entry forms."

For the first London Marathon last March 29 when an early postal delivery was vital, errant living close to the capital had a distinct advantage. This time Bolton will have equal status with Barnes.

The demand to join the London race compares with that to join the CND. But one without entry, whose branch the race is. After his sub-three-hour run last March he vowed to retire. "I'll be running on May 9", he told me yesterday.



HACKETT, John. Confidential Personal Report. Distribution: CIGS; AG; AGCSQR; CO QRI Hussars; HM; HE. Classification: Secret until next Thursday Nov 5 81.

This officer has had another promising year, but he continues to dissipate his formidable energies from military matters by his literary, academic, political, and musical activities. For instance, in the first debate of term at the Oxford Union the other day, Hackett came within a whisker of persuading the west undergraduates to vote in favour of increased defence expenditure and an independent nuclear deterrent.

He is working on a second book of popular strategic and military prediction about *The Third World War* to make our flesh creep. It is

A disciple of more than one talent

believed that the former officer in the Red Army who writes under the pseudonym of Victor Suvorov is helping him with his intimations of Armageddon. Hackett says in that dishonourable voice: "Due to hand it in by the end of the year. Way behind: as one always is. Can't review till then."

"Dammit," says Literary Editor. Hackett's address as President of Classical Association about tactical aspects of the Epic

Hero is remembered with awe as being both scholarly and witty, and presumably, militarily the bee's knees. In spite of precedents from Caesar, J. to Wavell, Archie and Fergusson Bernard, a general should not be too literate.

Do not be misled by this picture of contrived literary officer at rest, taken by Dennis Waugh. When the SITREP demands, Hackett is a hard-headed killing-machine. He has just shot a mink that was causing havoc among the trout in the river running through his mill near Cheltenham. If he concentrates on his professional duties, he should do better next year. But, in any case, happy birthday on Thursday.

Philip Howat

Mitterrand's sudden retreat on arts tax

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Oct 30

The decision by President Mitterrand, announced yesterday, to exempt all art objects from the scope of the new Socialist wealth tax, now under discussion in the National Assembly, has undoubtedly come as a surprise, even a shock, to many of his supporters in and out of Parliament.

M. Laurent Fabius, the Minister for the Budget, M. Christian Pictet, the Rapporteur of the 1982 Budget Bill and M. Pierre Joxe, the chairman of the Socialist Parliamentary group, had categorically opposed, in the committee stage and in debate of the whole Assembly, all Opposition amendments to do this.

It shows that the Republican monarchy, installed by General de Gaulle in 1962 and consolidated by his two successors, did not come to an end in May 1981, as many idealists of the Socialist Party fondly believed; and that Parliament has not been restored to its full prerogatives.

Despite the verbal activism and extremism of the Socialist Party and the socialist parliamentary group, the seat of power is still firmly entrenched in the Elysée Palace and when orders come from on high, members obediently toe the line.

The Finance Committee met yesterday morning and adopted an amendment accordingly. The Assembly a few hours later voted the exemption unanimously with the proviso that the works of art should not be exported and that taxes on objects by auction or art galleries should be doubled.

The Opposition had a field day condemning this "unusual procedure". One of its spokesmen, M. Jean Royer, compared the presidential decision to an edict of Louis XIV to the effect that "the right to make laws belongs to us alone, undivided and independent".

When the opposition proposed that historic houses be exempted too, a Socialist Deputy suggested with bitter irony that the Opposition table an amendment stating that "historic houses with cellars filled with rare vintages and walls hung with old masters be exempt from the tax." Stocks of wine were exempted yesterday, but the Communists abstained in protest.

"Have you ever tried to make an empty sack stand upright?" M. Parfait Jans, a Communist Party spokesman, asked M. Fabius in yesterday's debate. "Well, the wealth tax is turning into an empty sack."

Reminding his employees of the production figures for rival firms, he added: "It is to these competitors who present us with the most critical challenge to the survival of your jobs, a challenge which we are now tackling."

Describing the company's offer as "contemptuous" Mr Ronald Todd, the chief union negotiator, gave warning that unless Ford raised its offer, negotiations "would not get off the ground".

Continued from page 1

that must be satisfied before the wage increases become payable:

1. The need for optimum employment mobility and flexibility;
2. Employee cooperation on new technology and works systems;
3. Avoidance of inefficient restrictions and demarcation between jobs;
4. Full overtime flexibility;
5. Avoidance of lost time during working hours.

If a package along these ambitious lines is agreed, the company says it will pay wage increases ranging from £4 a week for the main group of 21,600 production-line workers presently earning £97.52 for 40 hours on days (plus an extra 50p on the £5 weekly attendance bonus) to £5.16 a week for top-paid craftsmen, currently £114 on days, with a 56p increase in attendance bonus to £7.65.

Ford has rejected all the other parts of the union claims including arguments for a 35-hour week, and Mr Roots insisted that the offer tabled yesterday would be paid "pro-rationally" if the union agreed to accept the principle that there must be real efficiency improvements to pay for that offer, achieved by the implementation of an efficiency agreement in each plant. I mean real efficiency.

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